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CHRISTMAS CHIMES.

BY MARK MEREDITH.

I hear ye ring upon the air
A melody sublime and clear;
Oh, bells, what is your missive fair
Unto the nations far and near?
A world of joy to live again—
A goal of rest—surcease of pain!

Ye echo down the centuries
In rhythmic resonance divine;
Oh, chimes, what fancies come to please
While clear and bright the star rays shine!
Oh, bells, you ring the world to glad
And lure to joy each heart so sad!

Chime on, ye harbingers of love,
With kindliness to all the world!
Oh, day of days, which Heaven above
Has in our hearts fore'er impearled!
Ring out, oh, bells, your missive sweet,
Which all the ages shall repeat!

THE AWAKENING OF DAWSON GRAVES.

A HOLIDAY STORY.

BY MARIE MADISON.

"Ring out, vain clamor, the fools love your sound, for it is food to their idle beliefs."

Dawson Graves threw down the casement, shutting out the sound of the Christmas chimes with the whistling and howling of the storm. Years ago, when he was a boy, the music of those bells had warmed his heart, had brought glad cheer and merrymaking, but sorrow and disappointments had soured his life, and now at the age of two and thirty he believed in nothing but his art.

As he turned away from the window it seemed as if there was a sudden movement from without his door, the soft tread of feet and a gentle tapping.

Who could this visitor be, coming to him at the weird hour of midnight on Christmas Eve. He thought of "Poe's Raven," and quoted the lines to himself as he stepped forward to open the door:

"Suddenly there came a tapping,
As of some one gently rapping,
Rapping at my chamber door."

And again there came that tapping on his door. With his hand on the knob, he paused.

"Who can it be?" he thought. "The doors below are locked. Who can have found their way here at this hour of the night!"

Opening the door partly, he looked out into the darkness, when a tiny figure pushed by him and entered the room.

He looked in amazement at the gaunt figure of a child, who gazed wonderingly back at him, and then, in a half scared way, looked about the studio.

"Guess I made a mistake," she said, shyly, edging toward the door.

"Guess you did," said Graves, closing the door and keeping his hand on the knob. "Who are you, anyway, and where do you come from?"

"I'm just Jessie," she said, "and I live in this house. I thought I was in my mamma's room, but I 'spose its further upstairs."

"And what are you doing out at this hour? Do you know it's midnight?"

"Yes. I went to look for Santa Claus!"

"Don't you suppose he can find you without your having to go out in the storm at midnight?"

"Oh, but it's Christmas Eve, and nothing can hurt you Christmas Eve, not even the storm, and I wanted to find Santa Claus so bad, but I couldn't unlock the door downstairs."

"I hope not, but it's not your place to find him. He'll come down the chimney to you."

"Oh, no. He won't come to me."

The little mouth quivered and two tears rolled down Jessie's cheeks.

"And why not?" questioned Dawson, beginning to feel an interest in his midnight visitor.

Jessie turned her dark eyes pensively toward the cheerful fire and, artist like, Graves mentally noted the effect of the mellow gleam and violet shadows upon her wan little face and glossy black curls. She was not a very beautiful child, but there was something subtly attractive about her. Her features were too bold, her eyes too full of thought. She looked like a handsome boy, therefore she did not make a pretty girl. Just now there was a depth of woe in her expressive eyes, and her lips quivered as she answered his query.

"Santa Claus don't go to folks that have no money and no friends," she said, with a pathetic sob, "and we have neither, because mamma's sick and out of work."

"But your father?" questioned the artist.

"He's in heaven. Oh, when he was alive old Santa Claus came every Christmas, but he won't come now. I know he won't."

"Don't be too sure. Where do you live?"

"Right upstairs, over the artist man that makes pictures."

"Well, I'm the artist; so you live overhead; so run along now, and I'll see Santa Claus when he comes by. Your mamma will worry."

"Oh, no, she's asleep. She didn't hear me go out. I sneaked. Please let me look at your pictures."

Dawson drew back the curtain from his lately finished painting, and stood aside to watch his little critic's face. The effect did not seem pleasant; at first she looked frightened, then displeased.

The subject was a satyr dancing to his shadow, and doubtless to the eyes of an ignorant child the merry satyr became a fiend of darkness.

"You don't like it, do you?" said the artist, feeling great disappointment.

"No, no, I don't. Don't you ever paint angels?"

"No."

"Nor fairies?"

"Oh, sometimes. I'll tell you what I'll do; if you will pose for me, I'll paint a picture of a fairy for you, which you can doubtless sell for a great deal of money. What do you say?"

"I wouldn't sell it for the world; but I'll pose for you if mamma will let me. I posed once for my picture, and my papa paid the artist ever so much money to make it."

"In this case I will pay you."

"Why don't you paint the Holy Mother and Child?" said Jessie, looking wisely into his eyes. "When I was ever so little my papa took me to the Louvre, in Paris, and there was such a beautiful picture like that. My papa said it cost ever so many thousand dollars."

"So you have been to Paris?" said Dawson, feeling his interest increase. "You must have been wealthy, and now so poor! What does your mamma do?"

"Anything. Most of the time she's an artist, only she don't paint big pictures like you; only little scenes on satin and boxes. Work's dull now, cause the holidays are here and we're ever so poor."

"Then she won't object to you pose for me; so run along now and come to me day after tomorrow and

Merry Christmas to you."

"Thank you. And you won't forget to speak to Santa Claus, will you?"

"No, indeed. Good night."

He held the door open that the light from his room might show her the way upstairs. On the upper landing she paused and waved her hand to him, then she disappeared and he heard the door above softly open and close. As he turned again to the window to look out on the night and storm a strange feeling of desolation came over him. A lonely life was his; his world bounded by the four walls of his studio, his heaven reaching only as far as the bliss of gratified ambition could lead him. Long ago the little testament he had prized in his boyhood had found its way into the fire and his few lingering beliefs with it. Hardship tends to make some men lean more toward God for strength and help; with Dawson Graves, followed as these hardships were by the heart rending of an unrequited love, they had turned his life to bitterness and filled him with an unbelief that took in all mankind and even heaven itself. He loved life merely for the few pleasures he might glean from it, and felt only contempt for death because it was the end of all, and held neither fears nor hopes for him. As for himself, he was only a worm, born lof the conditions existing in nature, but there was nothing before nor after life but chaos and oblivion.

But something had come into his empty life that night that filled it with a new meaning, and it still lingered after he had closed the door upon his midnight visitor.

The next morning he started very early for the market, returning with a basket filled with everything necessary to make an excellent Christmas dinner, also a book, such as he thought might please a child like Jessie, and a beautiful doll.

Somehow the purchasing of these things filled his blase life with more happiness than he had known for many a day, and it was with a throb of almost boyish delight that he deposited the basket at Jessie's door and silently tiptoed down stairs again. An hour later he heard Jessie's cry of delight from the hall above and knew she had found her treasure.

That Christmas Day was singularly happy to him. Not that he was unaccustomed to doing good, but it was not often his lot to make a little child happy, and the sad, wise eyes of little Jessie had filled him with an interest he seldom manifested toward anyone. He spent the morning hard at work, and in thinking of the child. He railed at the fate that made her young life so full of trouble. He was not a philosopher, and he could not understand it.

The day after Christmas, true to her promise, Jessie came for her sitting.

Her face was bright with smiles. Her mother was much better, and had gone to look for work, she said, and she herself had spent Christmas Day in thinking of him, and the more she thought about it the more anxious she became to have him paint a picture like the one she had seen in the Louvre.

"I know you could paint a picture like that if you tried," she said.

"But, my child," said Graves, "I don't believe in such things; why should I paint them?"

"But you must believe in them!"

"And what if I cannot?"

"Oh, you can. It's easy. Do you ever pray?"

"Never."

"Never! Oh!"

"I suppose you think I am a dreadful man."

"I'm very sorry for you."

Graves laughed. The child amused him vastly.

"We must not speak of these things," he said. "If you were older it would be all right."

"God must be very angry with you. You must do something to make him glad again. You must paint a picture of the Holy Mother and Child."

"Well, if it will please you and your heart is so set upon it, I will, just for your sake. You'll make a capital boy. I'll use you for a model."

"Yes, where the Savior is preaching to the rabbis," exclaimed Jessie, joyfully, and Graves laughed again. "But what will you do for Mary? Oh, I know—mamma."

"I need no model for Mary," said Graves, bitterly. "I have one in my mind's eye. No fairer face have I seen, and if she disappointed me—no matter."

"And can you paint her from memory?"

"Yes. I remember every line of her face."

"Oh, good, and that picture will make you rich. You shall see."

Dawson Graves worked very rapidly. He was an enthusiast and was guided solely by inspiration In less than a day he had sketched the outline of his painting. It was a beautiful composition. The boy on the altar—a boy whose face was Jessie's; the tall, lithe figure of the virgin mother standing to the right, urging him to follow her; the shadowy figures of the rabbis in the background.

Jessie watched his arm as it moved swiftly to and fro; she was anxious to climb down from the improvised altar on which she stood and watch him work, but Graves laughed and told her she should not look upon the picture until it was finished.

The second day he began to lay in the background, so Jessie was not needed, but she crept in during the afternoon to find the canvas turned with its face toward the wall and the artist fretting with the headache.

With a motherly air she bustled about tidying up the studio, arranging pillows on the couch, and insisting that he lie down while she made him a cup of tea.

"What an old fashioned little woman you are," he said, as he watched her work.

"I have to learn to do things," she said, wisely. "There is no one else to keep house when mamma is away, and I have to have tea ready when she comes home."

"Brave little girl. Some day you will make some lucky fellow a good wife."

Jessie suddenly put down the teapot, and sat down on a stool beside him.

"Why don't you get married?" she said. "It's a heap better than living like this."

"Little girl, marriage is a question of love with me, and I love no one."

"Didn't you ever love anyone?"

"Yes, once I loved a woman who—but never mind, I can never love anyone else."

"Oh, I know—I can guess, it's the one you are painting for Mary."

"You are right; it was she."

"But why didn't you marry her?"

"Our beliefs were different. I was an agnostic. She would not marry such a man."

"What's a agnostic?"

"Well——" Graves studied how he could explain. "Well, I didn't believe in Christmas and such things."

Jessie looked horrified. She had not thought it was quite as bad as this.

"I wouldn't be you for the whole world," she said, "but, there, your head aches, and I'm bothering you. I'll get you some medicine mother has, then I'll go upstairs and let you go to sleep."

"No, don't get me any medicine, child. Just pull the blinds down so the light will not shine in my eyes. It is not illness. It's overwork. I abuse my poor eyes. They'll be all right tomorrow."

But even the darkness and rest d'd not relieve him altogether. Though better in the morning he was far from well; yet he locked his studio door and set to work with a will, painting the face of Mary. He worked like a madman. As his brush drew forth the familiar features of the woman he had loved so hopelessly he felt all the old fire begin to burn again, and all the old despair and bitterness came with it.

So engrossed was he in his work that he did not hear the gentle tap on the door, and when the evening shadows began to cloud his canvas he still worked on, while the beautiful white face stood out of its dark background with a look like life, and an unutterable love shining in the eyes that were bent upon the figure of the boy upon the altar.

There was a pain in the artist's throbbing temples, and he tried to turn his eyes away from the picture, but he could not. There was not enough light for work, but he still kept on putting a touch here and there, until the brush dropped from his nerveless fingers, and, throwing his palette from him, he fell with a heart broken sob upon his couch.

As he lay there he heard the laughter of children's voices from across the way, and the bright glitter of an illuminated Christmas tree in a window opposite attracted him. Only two days before the world had been in holiday attire, and rejoiced for the salvation of mankind, for the birth of One who had lived almost two thousand years ago. Where would his fame be in two thousand years, even if he became a great painter? Would his name live as long as that of the boy he was trying to outline upon his weak and miserable canvas? Why had this man's name lived so long, and would it not continue to live on, none know how many thousand years, after his pictures have become rags, and his own dust has become as nothing but an atom in the vast creations of time? He felt himself growing so little, so very little in comparison with Him who was neither artist, nor sculptor, nor writer, whose words as those of a brother only had fallen upon hungry hearts, and so satisfied their longing that for thousands of years His praises had been sung.

Dawson Graves began to see himself as a vast picture of egotism. It was no longer unbelief that filled him, for he knew in his inmost heart he had never been satisfied that he really did not believe; it was egotism—vanity, nothing more, and he had suffered this vanity to stand between him and the woman he loved, to bring desolation into his life and empty it of every hope.

With these thought he fell asleep.

The next day he worked harder than ever, though the pain still harassed him Jessie posed for him, but the figure of the boy grew slowly. He spent most of the time listening to the child's wise prattle. It was like rain upon a parched and desert land.

New Year's morning dawned bright and cold. At nine o'clock Jessie knocked at the studio door to wish her friend good morning. Only a groan answered her, and she entered without leave.

"A Happy New Year," she cried, when she saw that Graves was lying on the couch, but he did not answer her. Approaching cautiously she looked at him and saw that he was pale and trembling.

"Mr. Graves," she cried, in a frightened tone. Then he reached out his hand and touched her.

Never had she seen a man so changed. His appearance frightened her.

"Child," he cried, hoarsely, "is it day—is it light?"

"Light," cried Jessie, in an awed tone. "It's bright daylight. The sunlight is streaming in. Can't you see it—can't you?"

"No—no. Turn the picture; let me see if I am blind, indeed. If the light has not gone from my eyes forever I can see *her* face."

With a sob Jessie sprang forward and turned the picture from the wall. Then a startled and joyful cry rang out.

"Oh, Mr. Graves," she cried, "you've painted my mother—my own, own mother, and you never let me see it."

But before her sentence was complete Graves pressed his burning hands over his blind eyes and fell back senseless.

* * * * * * *

Though darkness had fallen upon his eyes, th light burst upon his soul that day. Hand in hand he sat again with the woman he had loved.

"God has punished me," he said. "I bow to Him, the conquerer."

"But a merciful conquerer, Dawson," said the voice he loved. "He takes one blessing but gives another.

"Yes, He gives me the woman I love; but can I ask you to share such a fate as this—oh, misery!"

"Yes, even this. When did you need me more than now?"

But it was not to be a sacrifice. When the next New Year came Dawson Graves looked for the first time in a year into Jessie's eyes, and blessed her for the sunlight she had brought into his clouded life.

VAN AND NOBRIGA.

These clever performers, whose work with Louis Robie's Bohemian Burlesquers has added to the success of that organization during the past two seasons, were first seen together in a specialty last year. Vevie Nobriga was born Jan. 20, 1878, and made her first appearance when nine years old, in "The Silver King." At the age of twelve she was with Joseph Jefferson's Co., in "Rip Van Winkle," and subsequently played with Edwin Booth's Co., and soubrette roles with Chas. H. Hoyt, Barry and Fay, Jas. B. Mackie and the Gorman Brothers. Last season she was engaged for the Bohemians, and while with them joined Mr. Van in a comedy sketch. Billy B. Van, who was born Aug. 3, 1870, went on the stage in J. C. Stewart's juvenile "Pinafore" Co. in 1876, at Philadelphia, Pa., for a season, and for several years was attached to the Lyceum Theatre in that city. He studied law when about eighteen years of age, but returned to the show business, and, joining Mr. Hurley, played dates for several years. He then married, and, with his wife as a partner, under the firm name of Van and Lesley, worked for three years with the Geo. Dixon Show. Afterwards they were with Manchester's French Folly Co. and the Rose Hill Co. Last season Mr. Van joined the Bohemian Burlesquers, and appeared in a single specialty until his partnership with Miss Nobriga was effected. They are now doing a strong comedy act, Miss Nobriga's "coon" shouting being one of the features. Mr. Van appears in quaint Irish comedy, and they are aided in the general effect by a number of "komedy koons," whose singing and dancing is one of the hits of the act. In the first part and burlesque the work of Van and Nobriga is also admired by their audiences.

THE MAGIC NUMBER.

They were gathered together on the piazza of the Summer hotel.

"I often hear of the magic number," said one. "What number is it?"

"Why nine of course," replied some one else. "There are nine Muses, you know, and you talk of a nine days' wonder. Then you bowl at ninepins, and a cat has nine lives."

"Tomfoolery!" broke in another. "Seven is the magic number. Seventh heaven, don't you know, and all that. Seven colors in the rainbow, seven days in the week, seventh son of a seventh son—great fellow, and ——"

"Tush, tush!" remarked a third. "Five's the number you mean. A man has five fingers on his hand and five toes on his foot, and he has five senses. A nickel is five cents, and ——"

"Three is undoubtedly the magic number," interrupted another, "because people give three cheers, and Jonah was inside a whale three days and three nights, and if at first you don't succeed, try, try again—three times, you see!"

This was received with some contempt by the company, and a soulful youth gushed out ——

"Two, oh, two is the magic number! One's self and one other! The adored one! Just us two!"

A hard featured individual who had been listening to the conversation hitherto unmoved here remarked, in a harsh voice:

"The magic number is No. 1 in this world, and don't forget it."

An interval of deep thought on the part of all followed, after which they went in silently to supper.—*N. Y. Journal.*

IT WAS A LESSON.

Mr. McSwatters was tired of having his wife go through his pockets while he slept, and so it was that the following came about one afternoon:

Mrs. McSwatters was near sighted, otherwise the trick would have fallen through.

She had been shopping that afternoon, and the car she got into to go home contained several of her swellest friends, who nodded pleasantly to her.

"Fare, please," said the conductor.

She opened her pocketbook and took out what she supposed was a five cent piece. The conductor looked at it sharply, then at Mrs. McSwatters.

"No, madame," he said with a polite smile, "it's not good on this line."

"Why, what do you mean?" she asked haughtily.

"I mean that I cannot take this as car fare," replied the conductor, firmly.

"Is it not a five cent piece?"

"No, madam."

She hunted for her glasses, but could not find them.

"Will you kindly tell me what it says?"

"With pleasure, madam. 'Reilly's—Good for one beer.'"—*Exchange.*

THE ACTOR'S SMILE.

BY EDWARD E. KIDDER.

"Merry Christmas? Eh? What's that?
Yes, of course. I'd quite forgot.
All my 'merriment' could be
Crowded in an acre lot.
Matinee from two till five,
Bad hotel so far away
That I have to look alive—
Eat my dinner from a tray.

"Merry Christmas? Might have been
If the ghost would only walk,
But we're just three weeks behind,
We have had our pay in talk.
Oh, that 'backer' so serene,
With his thousands to invest,
Like Orion, he was seen
Sloping slowly to the West.

"Merrie Christmas? One night stands
Loom ahead in drear array,
But the manager commands,
And the actor must obey.
Give him notice? Well, I might,
That's the way I'd like to talk;
But my board bill here is paid,
'Twouldn't be in old New York!

"Merry Christmas? Well, perhaps
'Twont be quite so dull for me;
We've an actress here that I
Value more than salary.
She's our stage adventuress;
Dark of hair and black of eye,
Full of love and tenderness—
Why, she wouldn't hurt a fly.

Then the actor plied his paint,
Glued his nose on with a laugh,
Lined his face to make it quaint,
Rearranged his other calf,
Douned his hanberk with an air,
Pasted whiskers on his jaws,
Combed his comic wig with care,
And "went on" to wild applause!

A BUNCH OF FORGET ME NOTS

BY W. A. ALLAN.

The breakfast room at the "Saxons" was bright and warm; a striking contrast with the cold and foggy November day.

As Dorothy Hunter sipped her coffee, there came a knock at the door, which caused her face to blanch. Slowly the door opened, and the servant came into the room with a letter which the postman had just brought. Dorothy opened the letter with trembling hands, and drew forth a small piece of paper, from which there dropped a dried and faded bunch of Forget-me-nots. On the paper was written the words: "The Editor regrets that he cannot accept your kind offer."

With a half suppressed moan, she sank down into the easy chair by the side of the table, and hid her face between her hands, while the piece of paper with the fatal words fluttered to the carpet. For some moments there was silence in the room; then Dorothy stooped and picked up the withered spray, and as she held it between her fingers memory brought back to her the history of that spray. She was walking again with Jack Hunter by the side of a tiny brooklet that ran windingly through the charming glen of Lidford. She feels him pressing that spray, with others, into her hand, whilst on her lips lingers the kiss of their betrothal.

Again she read the brief note, and examined the address written upon the envelope. It was clear that it had come from her husband, Jack Hunter, editor of *The Post*. He had written her with his own hand, and so there was no doubt attached to the missive.

Dorothy had never suspected for a moment that his love could change so suddenly into hate. Even when belief in his real affection for her had at times been a little shaken, she was still confident that Jack loved her sincerely. The idea of love's failure under trial had never entered her mind.

Alone with her thoughts, she recalled the past three years of her married life. Jack Hunter was nine years older than herself. His breadth of intellectual vision, and strong fertile brain, his successes and achievements, had made his request a kind of condescension on his part. He was a man worshipped and flattered by all, to whom many a noble woman would have gladly plighted her faith. Yet with all his marked ability and talent, he had stooped to ask the unknown Dorothy Fairfax to share his fortunes.

Again and again he had told her that she was necessary to his happiness, and without her life would be robbed of all its charms for him. And she, in return, loved him with her whole heart.

But since their marriage, Jack Hunter had changed. There was a coldness in his manner towards her. The woman's soul was athirst, and day by day she grew more dissatisfied and discontented. The bright picture which Dorothy had drawn, peopled with imaginary successes and gay with social and intellectual triumphs, faded rapidly, and gave place to bitterness and disappointment. Instead of entering into the gay social gatherings of the day, she was penned up in the "Saxons." To make matters worse, her husband was often away for weeks together. The demands of business and the task of editing *The Post*, engaged his whole time. His work lay amidst the turmoil of city life, while his house was situated some fifteen miles from the metropolis.

Dorothy Hunter simply loathed the "Saxons," and often, when gazing out upon the world from the seclusion of her home, longed for the galeties of life, which she fancied were within easy reach. She sighed for freedom; the dreariness of her country home added to her dissatisfaction, while the fancy that she had been wronged by Jack Hunter grew apace. At last the spirit of revolt changed the submissive wife into a defiant and resolute woman. Seclusion led her to indulge in morbid fancies, and she told herself that her marriage with Jack Hunter was a huge mistake; that he looked upon her, not as a wife, but the plaything of an hour, to amuse himself with when tired of the world. The endeavors to make herself worthy of his devotion, and the development of a literary taste, seemed no longer objects worth striving to attain. Dorothy thought these things only served to make her an instrument for promoting her husband's fame, that he simply required her for that—only that. Such imaginings hardened her heart, and the affectionate wife of a few fleeting months, became a distempered woman.

Jack Hunter was painfully conscious of the change, but he did not complain, nor show, in any way, how it cut him to the heart. Like many others, her idea, that he had altered in his affection towards her, was purely an act of imagination, for his love for Dorothy still ran as a golden thread through his life. He had, however, overlooked the fact, so often lost sight of, that she, with a true woman's nature, needed the frequent assurances of his devotion.

Jack Hunter was filled with vague doubts and misgivings. He thought that she was disappointed in him, and was regretting her mistake; that Dorothy had tired of his presence and affection, never suspecting that his long and continued absences were the cause of the change.

These thoughts threw a gloom over his life. His wife's coldness engendered in him a chronic hopelessness and melancholia. Between husband and wife the dark chasm of despair grew apace. The climax of their wretchedness was reached at last. He had been absent a week, and had returned with the news that he was going to Germany, to complete a work he had on hand. To Dorothy Hunter, the idea was unbearable. She poured out all her grievances, and many were the bitter things she said, words, which in a quieter moment she would not have uttered. Restraint was swept away and feelin overset. She accused him of unfaithfulness and desertion; that he had taken a mean advantage of her youth, in forcing her into marriage, that he was false.

Jack Hunter listened patiently to the end. He did not show how deeply her words wounded him.

"Are you insane, Dorothy?" he interposed at last. "Do you know what you are asking for? Now a woman and not a baby."

"Let me go? Let me go away from you!" she said, "I m tired of it all."

"You can please yourself; go or stay. There shall be no regrets on your part. I mean it."

With these words he went out of the room. He had returded to the 'Saxons" with jaded spirits, and this request of his wife had irritated him.

There are in all lives the ebb and flow of human passion. Jack Hunter became suddenly repentant. With the air of a suppliant he returned to his wife, and spoke calmly and gently to her. He pleaded with Dorothy, and portrayed vividly what the consequences would be if she carried out her intentions, but she remained indifferent to all he said. Not for the sake of the world's opinion would she give up her proposed liberty. Freedom from Jack Hunter was her cry, and this she would have.

To the last he tried to smooth the way to reconciliation, but found it futile. For Dorothy's sake alone he suggested that she should return to her father's house for a time so as to avoid illnatured gossip and scandal.

She was now busy with her packing. Jack Hunter had returned to the city, crestfallen and sad. Gladness and gloom were striving for mastery in her heart, out as gloom in all life is the stronger, her gloomy thoughts prevailed. A sense of remorse stole over her, as she questioned whether Jack was really as resigned as he seemed. What would he feel, thought she, when he again entered the "Saxons," and found her gone for ever? Then again, who would manage the house in her absence, and attend to his comfort? There will be a lot of waste, not to say expenses, she reflected.

Dorothy took up a packet of love letters, which Jack had sent to her before their marriage. Tied up with them was a dried up bunch of forget-me-Nots, which he had picked for her, now so long ago. For the past two years Dorothy had not read any of these epistles, but this morning a yearning for some sentiment of the old days came over her. Page after page she read eagerly, for the letters were those of a passionate, devoted lover. In fancy the past returned to her; Dorothy saw past events in a clearer light than before. the old love came back to her again. Jack Hunter was once more the idol of her life. A great sob rose in her throat as she realized what had come between them. Dorothy knew that he had been true to her, and that she had mistrusted him. If she could but speak to him again; she longed to throw herself into his arms and ask him to forgive her. If she wrote at once to the office of *The Post* he would get her letter before starting for Germany, and she would receive his reply; perhaps he would come back again before he sailed.

With tremulous hands she poured out on paper all the remorse that filled her, keeping nothing back. Dorothy told him everything, and begged him to forgive her. Within the letter she placed a spray of forget-me-nots. It was a reminder of the past, and was sent to plead for her.

This was the answer she had received to her suppliant letter, the return of the spray, with the terse sentence, cold and distant: "The editor regrets that he cannot accept your kind offer."

Again she took up the note which had been sent in reply to hers. Dorothy's heart was filled with a great despair.

"Jack! Jack! forgive, forgive your foolish wife," she cried.

Her position came vividly before her. She was a forsaken woman, forsaken by the man who had sworn to be true to her.

All hopes of reconciliation were now gone, and she must leave the "Saxons." Should she plead once more? No; she would not humiliate herself again. She would go away into some distant part of the world, where Dorothy Hunter would be unknown. By some means she would eke out a living. She would take up her studies in painting, and with this idea in her mind, she finally decided to go to Paris.

She left the house on the following day, with the intention of crossing the channel from Dover. Before leaving, however, she wrote Jack Hunter, in reply to his curt message, to say she had taken him at his word, and had gone to Paris.

Dorothy Hunter journeyed to London, and not to Dover, as she had planned. The feeling of deserting him was too strong for her. She resolved to see him once again before she left England forever.

Before the day was over, Dorothy had taken apartments in a side street. Her landlady had been a woman of independent means, who had fallen in the world. Mrs. Fabian, the new lodger, was a "most remarkable, sedate and secluded person." Dorothy's friendliness was noticed by Mrs. Thomson, who, like most of her class, jumped to a wrong conclusion.

Here in the seclusion of her rooms Dorothy Hunter passed many a weary day. She had adopted the name of "Fabian," thinking that such a name would help the sale of her pictures.

Amid the hurry and bustle of the city life she heard now and then of her husband's doings. Months had passed since she deserted the "Saxons," and now Dorothy had no wish to be with him again. She was content. One day she almost touched him in the crowded Strand. He did not see her. Like one suddenly changed into a statue, she stood unable to speak, and watched the retreating figure till the surging mass of London traffic hid him from her.

In her heart there came again the old imperishable love for him, for the man whom she had aged, whose hair she had tinged with gray, and whose life she had darkened.

With the words "Jack, my Jack, forgive," she ran after him. About her all was a whirl and confusion. Hundreds of eyes looked into her face as she sought Jack Hunter. Down the street she ran as if insane, Jack Hunter crossed the road. Dorothy saw him. She had almost overtaken her husband, and the word "Jack" was upon her lips, when suddenly there was a scream from the passers by. A carriage attached to a pair of grey horses had run over a women, who now lay insensible in the arms of a policeman. It was Dorothy.

For days Dorothy Hunter lay at death's door, but by degrees she recovered from the shock.

One evening she was leaning listlessly against the mantlepiece in her little room, when there came a knock at the door. Mrs. Thomson walked into the room for a *tete-a tete*. The landlady had made it a practice since Dorothy had become an invalid to spend a few hours of cheery talk with her two or three times a week. Their conversation turned from one thing to another, till the subject of literary effort was discussed. Mrs. Thomson had written much in her time, but like many aspirants her labors had been fruitless. In fact, it was three years ago since she had sent anything to the press for acceptance. On that occasion something had occurred. Instead of receiving the editor's compliments with her returned MS., she received a letter, which, as she remarked, had been from that day to this a mystery to her.

"How very singular," said Mrs. Fabian.

"Yes, very, and do you know, Mrs. Fabian, I have felt guilty ever since I received it, because it was not mine. I can't understand what it could have meant. You shall see it."

Mrs. Thomson rose from the chair and went out of the room. In a short time she returned with an old fashioned box, and lifting the cover, she took from it the letter in question.

Dorothy took the letter, and almost immediately uttered a cry, for it had come from the editor of *The Post*. It was dated November 18, and was in Jack Hunter's handwriting.

She read on and on to the end, then, with eyes filled with tears, she cried:

"Mrs. Thomson, you have done very wrongly in keeping back a letter never intended for you; this is my letter—mine, mine! You have kept it for three years, knowing it was not yours, and you have kept me from my husband for three long years."

"Forgive me, dear Mrs. Fabian. I never thought it could be of such importance," replied the agitated landlady.

"I can't! I can't!" wailed Dorothy, as she again read the words:

"You have brought sunshine to my life again. My darling, I thank you, oh so much, for your kind words. I love you the same as ever, my Dorothy, and shall for all eternity. Yes, I forgive you, if there is anything to be forgiven. Let us trust each other better, and never again speak of that wretched night, and of the words we said. Excuse more till I see you in two days. I return the spray, as a reminder is unnecessary to me, while you are the star of my life."

In the rush of the editor's room this letter had been put in to the wrong envelope, and consequently Dorothy had not received her forgiveness till now, after many years of suffering and pain.

With a shaking hand she wrote him as from the dead, for he had searched all Paris for her, but in vain, and told him the same old story which is spoken every day.

* * * * * * * *

The weary and long years of separation were over. She was in her husband's arms, with her head resting peacefully upon his shoulder.

"Dorothy! Dorothy, did I really make such a mistake?"

With a whisper she replied, "Yes, Jack, you did, but it was all my fault."—*London Society.*

TAKING HIS MEASURE.

TOMTOM—I see young Snoozerly has become a member of the Harvard football team.

BUZZFUZZ—What is he—a half back or a quarter back?

TOMTOM—From what I can make out he is a drawback.

NOT HIS FAULT.

FATHER MCDUFF (*severely*)—You should be ashamed of yourself, O'Donnell. You never know when you have enough.

O'DONNELL—An' shure yer Riverence is roight. Oi never know! Whin Oi gets enough Oi'm insinsible.—*Puck.*

FOUND IN A PURSE.

BY FANNY DARE.

For an half hour gone Page had been walking nervously up and down the room, making abrupt starts and stops, as he alternately examined first a purse and then a manuscript, which he held in his hands. He had found them on the office stairs some days previously, had advertised them and was now awaiting the coming of the claimants.

He was a fine fellow, handsome, nonchalant, one to go as the world goes and seldom curious, but now his curiosity was aroused and, the queerest part of it was, aroused, too, over a bit of anonymous manuscript verse found kicking about like waste paper on the floor.

He was at the head of a young publishing house, the success of which was already acknowledged, and he was consequently deluged with original matter of every description, little of it available, and most of it temper trying. But he knew a good thing when he saw it, and, better yet, appreciated it, and did in this particular case to the point of getting himself into a state of irascibleness because he could not find the writer. There was a cross note in his voice as he lit a cigar, and, with it between his teeth, rumbled away to himself:

"If I know anything I know that this is genuinely good stuff, a really fine poem, and the work of a genius or something very close to it. It is as exquisitely sweet and tender as anything ever written, and it will not take many like it to make some one famous. What if it were a copy or translation? Nonsense! I shall not even think of such a thing. If it had ever been published in any language the world would know it. It is a gem, flawless, and I have just got to find the writer, and will. When I read it somehow it reminds me of Marion's funny, jingly little verses. I suppose because it is so very, very different. Dear Marion! She would write, and I broke her heart when I laughed at her productions! I suppose it was insulting, but I did it for her own good, hoping to cure her! It seemed a pity for such a nice girl to throw herself away on poetry, and all my life I have detested a girl with a literary bee under her sailor hat. Leave that to the old maids who have no other consolation, but when a girl is young and pretty and sweet enough to—pshaw! I am actually getting sentimental, and after three long years, too. Well! well! Arthur Page! Oh, hang it! Where is that Vealie?"

He clanged a small gong on his desk, and the Swedish office boy, whose real name was Willie, came in.

"Show in every one who calls in regard to that puree advertisement we put in the papers. Every one, mind you—miss no one."

"Vealie" said he would do as bid and went out whistling softly. Page strutted about awhile and then began rumaging in his desk for the purse, so as to have it at hand when needed, forgetting that he had flung it on a side table near the door during one of his impatient moments, caused by the memory of the queer, jingly verses of a certain Marion.

He was still searching for the mislaid purse, and violently anathematizing the lax discipline of the office, when "Vealie" ushered in a large, soiled woman, with fresh boiled hands and a very irritating smile. As she entered she saw the purse on the side table near the door, and scrutinized it closely ere Page turned to her.

He proffered a cheery good morning, and asked her errand.

"I came up after me purse, sur, if you please, which me bye, Timmy, do be after readin' in the papers you have found."

"You can identify the purse, I suppose?"

"Oh, ov coorse, sur! It were a dirty, little, bluish purse. Well, well, look there now, will you! I'm thinkin' of one I lost long ago. This one was an illegant black bag wid a silver chain to tie it to me belt, and was given me by a gintleman who thinks a g-r-e-a-t deal of me, and he gave it to me because it matched the color of me eyes."

"But your eyes are blue!"

"Ah, sur; excuse me for intrudin' me private affairs upon you, but, whisper! he gave it to me after a bit of a love spat and that accounts for the difference in the color. In it was me week's rint, and me bye Timmy do be raisin such a row."

"Yet, judging from your smiles, you seem to take it good naturedly enough!"

"Bless you, sur, that is only me smilin' disposition. I'm always smilin'. I can't help it; but it don't mane a single thing."

"What were the contents of your purse?"

"Didn't you open it yet?"

"Certainly I did."

"Then why are you askin' me?"

"You must identify your property."

"I told you there was me week's rent and, sur, excuse me for blushin', a few love verses."

"Verses, eh! You lost some verses, then?"

"Oh yis, sur. Beautiful ones. Sint by that same gintleman. Whisper! It's me janitor, and he's in love with me smilin' disposition."

"Describe the verses!"

"Oh, sur; you have them. Read them for yourself."

"Come, come, my good woman, you must identify the contents of the purse you claim!"

"Very well, sur. They went like this: 'Come rest on this shirt bosom me own Lucretia dear,' Lucretia is me saint's name. 'Come rest on this shirt bos——'"

"What!"

The word shot out as if gunpowder had exploded in his mouth, and he wheeled his chair abruptly about. "There is a mistake here. I have no such verses," and he tapped the gong for "Vealie."

She did not grasp the situation at once, but when she did she stopped long enough to say:

"You're an insultin' cheat and I'll have me property or I'll have the law to you, and that before night, too. My bye Timmy fears no man. Like his father before him, he can take the right eye outen your head and put it back agin unbeknownst to ye. He'll settle me troubles fer me. You needn't wave your hand and tap your bell. I'll go as becomes a peaceable, law abidin', Christian woman, but wait till you meet up with my bye!"

Despite the awful threat Page smiled, but determined on an entirely different mode of procedure with the next claimant, a tiny woman, who looked hysterical, and as if she might become violent if allowed too much headway. Arthur forestalled her and, with great severity of tone, began:

"Good morning. I suppose you are a claimant for the purse I have found. Very well. Please state when you lost it, how, who, which, what, when? The color, size, age, weight, height, price, contents? Are you married, any husbands, dead or alive? Sons or janitors? Now proceed."

The bewildered little creature replied in a voice of picolo shrilliness. "I understand not so much. I do not so much want the money what I lose, but the paper. The paper, that is it."

"Then you have lost a valuable paper!"

"Oh my, yes, so much valuable."

"What was it, verses?"

"Yes, I think so. It was worth much to me. You see I bring it so far. From Germany. It was much worth, and now ——" Tears were streaming down her cheeks.

"Can you tell me what was in the paper you have lost?" said Page, with a kindlier tone than before.

"Oh, yes. I know efery word. It say 'take one quart castor oil'"

Page laughed. "My dear girl," he began, "what sort of a paper is it you have lost?"

"Ah, sir; do not laugh. It is for the hair, to make it grow, see!" and she loosened a massive coil of yellow brown hair and let it ripple down over her deformed shoulders.

"Then you have lost a formula for a hair restorative which is precious to you. I am sorry, but I have not found it. Come to me tomorrow if you have not found it yet, and I shall assist you, if possible."

So, thus reassured she passed out, thanking Page with a voice shrill, to be sure, but with a ring of sincerity in it that matched the honesty of her eye.

On his return trip "Vealie" brought in a shrewd looking street gamin, who, as he stood, kept up a constant shuffling of his feet, annoying and irritating past all belief. Arthur loved boys, dirty or clean, and this time he began smilingly:

"Well, young man, what seems to be the matter with you?"

"Dere ain't anyting de matter wid me as I knows on. I came up after me mudder's pocketbook."

"Ah, did you? Will you please stop shuffling your feet?"

"Dey's my feet, aint dey?"

"I am glad to know they are not mine."

"An' it's my shuffle, too, ain't it?"

"Very well. Let it go at that. What was in your mother's pocketbook?"

"Dere was money in it."

"Stand still! You would drive a man mad. Anything else in it?"

"Yes, dere was poitry in it."

"What kind of poetry?"

"I never heerd of but one kind. Love poitry."

"Can you repeat some of the poetry for me?"

The boy grinned. "Say, young fellow, tell me de truth! Do I look like as if I went around repeatin' poitry fer people? Did you tink I was Edwin Boot? It aint my poitry, nohow. It's me mudder's."

"Is your mother a poet?"

"Yes, if dey is de people what takes in washin' and scrubbin'. Oh, you know me mudder. She was up here!"

"Then you are 'Timmy,' and have come up to take the law to me, I suppose."

"Oh, I ain't so worse as me mudder says, neider I ain't lookin' fer no trouble. I just wants de mazuma wat was in de book, an' dat's all. You see, it's dis way! Me mudder's gone soft again. Dis time on de janitor, and she gets dat daffy she drops de dough. You can keep de poitry, cause I don't want nuttin' dat janitor ting give her, cause me an' him ain't speakin' as we pass by. But I do want me little old two eighty-five."

"Then that is the amount your mother lost?"

"Dat's it. Two eighty five."

"Well, see here, Tim; despite the restlessness of your feet I believe you and I could be pretty good friends if occasion offered, and as I haven't got your mother's purse I'll lend you the two eighty-five to help a good fellow over a rough place, and be sure you pay the rent with it."

Tim hung his head to hide the good feeling gleaming in his eyes and followed "Vealie" out, muttering something about somebody being nothing but the whole thing and the kind of people it was a credit to know.

Page returned to his task of looking for the mislaid purse, and, would you believe it, stumbled slap bang upon a small drawer full of Marian's queer, jingly little verses. He began reading them, and became so absorbed he scarcely noticed that "Vealie" had announced another visitor, who, by he way, was young and pretty and had dark gray, mischief laden eyes, and a "pinky" ring set close with little diamonds. She stood near the side table, and at once espied the purse half hidden under the medley of papers, and picked it up. At last Page put down some verses a little more jingly than the last, and, without turning to see who or what his visitor was, asked:

"You are a claimant for the purse, I suppose? What color was your purse, red?"

The girl dangled the purse saucily on her forefinger as she replied, "No, sir; black."

With back still turned to the speaker, Arthur said ironically, "I have no doubt but you can give the minutest description of it?"

"Oh yes, sir; the very minutest. It is a black seal leather bag with silver chatelaine attachments the design of the mountings is a grapevine twisted, and the contents"—here she took them one by one from the purse—"are one dollar and sixty-eight cents, a lead nickel, one postage stamp, a tooth pick, a button hook and a piece of chewing gum."

"And some 'poitry'?"

"No, sir. There was no 'poitry' in my purse. There was a poem, but of course you, being a publisher, couldn't be expected to know much about that sort of thing!"

"Oh, I don't know," Page replied, loftily, wanting to turn around, but hating to give in. "Did you lose a poem?"

"No, sir; I did not lose anything."

"Come, now; don't get funny. This is my busy day. I thought you came up about the lost purse."

"No, I came up about the purse you think was lost. You said in your advertisement that the writer of the verses found would hear of something to their advantage by calling at your office, so I came up to hear what it was."

He folded the last smeary copy of the jingly verses away and closed and locked the drawer before he turned around. Then he just sat staring. As for the girl, she was the pretty picture of an embarrassed young rogue, with the red stealing over her face and throat and ears, and her eyes throwing out electric flashes of love and mischief. He sort of blurted out "Marian," and she replied, "Arthur, you mean old thing," and then life began again for these two foolish young creatures.

When they had again gotten so they could sit on two chairs and speak the language of everyday human beings, Marian said:

"I got tired of sending you verses that were always returned to me unread. I know, because I set a trap for you; so when I knew you were going to pass up the stairs I laid the purse in your way, and hid behind the door. Three years have not changed me if it has changed my verses. Don't I look about as jolly as ever, though I have studied every day and some nights, too? Now what is it you are going to tell me to my advantage?"

Tell her? Ah, ye kind fates be praised, there are some happy moments in this world for all of us.

FRIEND BOB.

FROM THE FRENCH,
BY JEAN RAUCOURD.

Count Victor de Maugis came out of the theatre. He had wrapped himself closely in his fur coat, turned up the collar, squeezed his cane under his arm, and stuck his hands deep in his pockets.

It was a clear, frosty night; the streets and roofs appeared in the cold moonlight almost white.

Count Victor de Maugis, by way of exception, was returning home on foot, for he had not ordered his coupe because he was afraid to trust his horses on the icy pavements.

Just as he was walking over the square by the Theatre Francais he heard a whine, which certainly proceeded straight from the large ice crusted basin of the fountain.

Quite surprised, he stepped to the edge of the basin, and, sure enough, there he distinctly saw in the midst of the small pieces of ice a rosy snout and little paws, which seemed to belong to one of the popular lap dogs, a King Charles.

The count had as little sympathy for dogs as for children, and only with the thought of not hearing again the plaintive tones, perhaps, in his memory, he did not hesitate to thrust his hands into the ice cold water and rescue the pretty little animal. He seized it by the back of the neck, placed it carefully on the ground, and went quietly on his way, without concerning himself further about the dog.

He had already reached the end of the street, when he felt suddenly a peculiar contact on his legs, like a soft caress—it was the pretty little animal, who was showing his gratitude to his rescuer, and wished to follow him.

This was disagreeable to the count, and he tried to frighten the animal away, but the dog was stubborn.

Now the count stepped out quicker, thinking the dog would lose his track, but the attachment of animals is greater than that of man, and the dog, tripping along on the delicate little legs, followed his deliverer.

The count stopped before a handsome house on the Boulevard Haussmann, opened the street door, and was firmly convinced that he would soon be rid of the troublesome companion.

But the little dog had already sprung nimbly to his side, and his begging whine sounded almost like the plaint of a human being in distress.

Now, it so happened that Mons. de Maugis lived on the ground floor of the house, and he feared, probably not wrongly, that the animal would howl the whole night precisely under his windows, and so destroy his rest.

The thought of seeing his sleep disturbed was for him the terror of all terrors. To escape this the only thing he could do now was to take the grateful dog with him in his bachelor's home.

Scarcely did the little dog find himself in there, however, when he began to manifest his joy by executing the wildest springs, and decidedly evinced no inclination to have even the slightest regard for the silk coverings of the furniture.

In order to subdue this excitement the count placed him on his knee and viewed the dog somewhat more closely.

It was, indeed, a King Charles, and one of the purest breed. At the neck the silken coat showed very plainly traces, as if from the pressure of a collar. Surely this little pet belonged to somebody surrounded by luxury; but how was this "somebody" to be discovered, since the collar, on which the name of the possessor had doubtless stood, was no longer at hand?

The next day the count would take the necessary steps to find the legitimate owner of the dog; for the moment he confined himself to preparing, in his dressing room, which was separated from the real bedchamber only by a heavy curtain, a sleeping place for the animal out of two feather pillows.

A few moments later he had gone to bed himself, and was enjoying the sleep he had so well earned by his act of deliverance, when all at once a silk ball fell heavily upon his bed, and he started up with fright; at the same moment he also felt a warm, moist tongue, which licked his hand.

It was the King Charles who now turned round several times on the same spot, and then, with the greatest tranquility of mind, as if it was his undisputed privilege, lay down on the place he had chosen himself, and at last was good enough to go to sleep.

The count had the greatest inclination to fly in a passion, but what could he do against this proof of tenderness, to which the little dog was evidently accustomed?

Nothing remained for him but to endure the inevitable with dignity, and so, finally, the little dog and his rescuer slept peacefully side by side.

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While the Count de Maugis and his new friend enjoyed thus the most complete rest, sleep would not come at all to a beautiful young woman, the Baroness Hermelin, who lived in a charming mansion on the Champs Elysees.

She turned restlessly in her elegant bed from one side to the other, her fingers picked absently at the fine lace on her nightdress, and the novel she had wished to read had slipped long since from her slender hands, and lay unnoticed on the floor.

She had, indeed, the firm intention to go to sleep, and yet she thought aloud and said:

"How was it possible? My poor Bob! Where may he be now?"

And she let the whole afternoon, with all its occurrences, pass once more before her.

In her mind she was again in every shop, repeated every purchase, and she always remembered quite distinctly that her little dog had been by her side, on this day as on all others her sole companion, for she had remained behind as the rich, but childless widow of the Baron Hermelin.

"Certainly," she cried, "it happened at the moment when the old beggar ——"

Ah! the man made such a sad face, and had besought her so unhappily!

She had given him alms, and at the same time had left her carriage a moment.

Then, when she turned round again, "Bob" had disappeared, and in the distance she saw several little vagabonds, who were running hastily away.

Beside herself, she had called to a police officer, but the few minutes she required to explain her misfortune had sufficed for the flight of the thieves.

Quite worn out from all the exertions she returned home, and had the most terrible notions of the cruelties that were inflicted upon her pet—perhaps he was even dead already!

When she had recovered herself a little she sent advertisements to all the newspapers, in which she promised a reward of a hundred francs to the one who would restore Bob to her.

Already beforehand she wished to forgive the reprobate if she only had her dear little animal again.

But would it be brought back to her? Would not the thieves see a trap in this large reward? Would they not fear arrest? After all, would they prefer to keep the costly collar and turn the poor animal into the street?

The next day the Baroness had sent her maid to the dog pound.

Bob had not been delivered there.

And since then nothing, nothing at all, not the slightest news!

And during that night she was in utter despair.

"There is no more hope, it is decided! All is over! My poor little Bob! I shall never see him again!"

Already for three nights she lamented thus, and could find no sleep till daylight.

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The following morning—it was about ten o'clock, and the Baroness was still engaged in dressing, without, however, taking any pleasure in this occupation, notwithstanding that the glass reflected a charming image, whose original, in unconscious grace, committed the abundance of golden blond hair to the hands of the maid, and rested nonchalantly on the reclining chair—there came suddenly a knock, and the servant announced that some one had brought Bob.

"Alive?" cried the young woman with a trembling voice.

"Yes, my lady; only the collar is missing."

"Ah! that's of little importance!"

With eyes sparkling for joy the Baroness ran into the other room as fast as she could.

She took from her writing desk an envelope, in which she already three days before had enclosed a hundred franc bill, and handed it to the servant.

"Quick, quick!" she said, "bring Bob to me!"

And in her joy she did not inquire about the appearance of the person who had brought her dog.

This person was none other than the Count de Maugis, who had read the advertisement of the Baroness the same morning, and made haste to restore the dog to her, in order to get rid at last of the burden.

He assumed that the envelope handed to him contained a few words of thanks from the owner, stuck it carelessly in his pocket, and not till he sat comfortably in his coupe did he discover the amusing error, which diverted him greatly.

He breakfasted at his club, as usual, but, quite contrary to his custom, he was very talkative today.

Then he smoked three cigars instead of the two which he heretofore allowed himself, and, thereby put in humor, he came to a resolution.

He took the little envelope and the hundred franc bill, put both in a larger envelope, added another hundred franc bill to it, and, taking a visiting card, wrote upon it:

"A hundred francs from Bob, and a hundred franks from his recent friend, the Count de Maugis, for the poor of the Baroness de Hermelin."

In the course of the afternoon he left these double alms at the Baroness' mansion himself.

Toward evening a note was brought to him.

The Baroness wrote on her card:

"It would have been impossible to have punished me with more gallantry for my great carelessness. A thousand thanks for my poor, and hearty thanks also for Bob, who is always at home for his friend on Wednesday."

The following Wednesday the Count de Maugis went to Bob's reception.

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He came into a large circle of pretty young women, to whom the Baroness was just relating Bob's "adventure."

She received him with such great amiableness that he thought to himself:

"It is really very pleasant to let a good deed be rewarded!"

But he was at once attacked with questions:

Where had he found Bob?

In what condition had he been?

How could it have happened that the dear little animal, who at other times bit every stranger, had shown so much attachment to him?

As the hero of the day he told about the matter very briefly. The fate of the dog, moreover, no longer interested him at all.

On the other hand, however, the owner of the same exercised decidedly a great power of attraction over him; he felt himself drawn on as if by a magnet.

But, then, she was ravishing in her graceful appearance, in the tasteful toilet, which could not have been more attractive.

Above all it was the eyes. They had bewitched him with the beaming, thankful glances which she had for him. "Esprit" she possessed also. And when she cried with fine malice:

"Mon Dieu! I can never forgive myself for having disturbed the rest of a bachelor in such a manner!"—lo and behold—no, it was absolutely incredible, the count felt that he turned red, and all at once fancied that he was terribly ridiculous.

He took leave in haste.

However, from this day on—he did not know himself exactly how it came about—he met the Baroness Hermelin very frequently in company, and every Wednesday—indeed, regularly, without missing a single one—he presented himself at the Baroness'.

"I know well enough," she was wont to say then sometimes, "you do not come on my account, you only wish to inquire after your friend Bob!"

Bob, in fact, had remained true to the once shown friendship, and had for his rescuer almost as many proofs of affection as for his beautiful mistress.

He manifested a quite particular predilection for the count's cravats, on which he played with his little paws, and with his little rosy tongue he convinced himself of the softness of the stuff, without the count, who really attached a very great value to his dress, checking the dog in such practices.

But it seemed as if human influence also made itself felt here, for Bob became inconstant. Indeed, after two months this great fondness had not only considerably decreased, but it had even quite decidedly taken every indication of a pronounced hostility.

"I do not understand at all what Bob has against you," said the Baroness; "he is a thankless little beast!"

Had Bob been able to speak he would have told that his mistress seldom played with him any more, fondled him only in an absent way, and even no longer took him in the bed with her; on the drives, when she went shopping, he was, to be sure, yet with her, but what a difference from formerly! She scarcely still looked at him then! He was really in complete disgrace—and since when was that?

Since the Count de Maugis frequented the house.

And Bob had, for a dog, truly a great deal of acuteness, for one Wednesday evening in Spring, in the twilight hour, when the other visitors were all gone, the Count de Maugis seized the hand of the Baroness very abruptly, and asked softly, as he sank down at her feet:

"Will you, out of love for Bob, call yourself Countess de Maugis?"

Her answer was, without words, eloquent enough. See let him keep the seized hand, which he covered with kisses.

Theatrical.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston.—Francis Wilson, with his own company, begins Dec. 20 a two weeks' engagement at the Tremont Theatre, where he will present his popular opera, "Half a King," adapted from the French by Harry B. Smith, and music by Ludwig Englander. Next week the same bill. Last week, 18, Mr. Willard closed his very brilliant engagement to a packed house.

BOSTON THEATRE.—The Christmas holidays' treat at Manager Tompkins' house will be the Hanlons' "New Superba," full of new and gorgeous scenery, transformations, illusions, scenic tricks, ballets and unique specialties. It will remain two weeks, and week of Jan. 3 will be succeeded by "The Bride Elect."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Manager Magee will present as his Christmas week attraction Alfriend and Wheeler's sterling melodrama, "The Great Diamond Robbery," which will be cast and staged to the fullest limit of the ample capacity of the house.

CASTLE SQUARE THEATRE.—Week of 20, at this house, the attraction will be "Hazel Kirke," produced under the personal direction of J. R. Pitman, with effective stage settings by B. W. Craig and Ansel Cook. Lillian Lawrence appears in the title role, and she will have the support of Wm. Humphreys, Chas. Mackay, J. H. Gilmour, J. L. Seeley, Tony Cummings, Mary Sanders, Lizzie Morgan, Rose Morison, Florence Baker and others of the stock. Next week, "Little Lord Fauntleroy." Last week, "A Celebrated Case."

COLUMBIA THEATRE.—Lincoln J. Carter's spectacular production, "The Heart of Chicago," will be the Christmas week offering here. The situations and mechanical effects of the play are said to be of the most sensational and realistic nature, and thrilling in the extreme. In the cast are Edmund Manley, Frederic Douglas, Allan Hampton, James Devlin, Frank Weed, Warren Ashley, Misses Willie Simms, Barbara Douglas and Vera Hamilton. Next week, "The Great Train Robbery." Last week, "Hogan's Alley."

HOLLIS STREET THEATRE.—"In Town," which has had such a splendid run here, is in its last week, beginning 20, and will be followed 27 by Richard Mansfield, who, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday matinee, will present "The Devil's Disciple," Thursday evening "A Parisian Romance," and Saturday evening "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."

PARK THEATRE.—"The Girl From Paris" continues to captivate the male element of the patrons at this house with her winsome ways, and excite the envy of the female contingent with her stunning frocks, but her reign is drawing to a close, and on the evening of 25 she will have to abdicate in favor of her rival, "The Belle of New York," with Dan Daly, Edna May and other favorites.

BOSTON MUSEUM.—"The Circus Girl" is right to the end of her stay with us. This charming musical comedy has taken a firm hold upon our theatregoers, and all who have seen it are lavish in praise of its genuine merit, catchy vocalism, beautiful scenic effects, and the fullness of pure fun which permeate every line of the comedy. It is billed for next week, which probably will be its last.

BOWDOIN SQUARE THEATRE.—Leonard Grover's original comedy drama, "Lost in New York," will be the attraction here week of 20. It will be mounted in the most perfect manner, with every needful scenic and mechanical effect, and interspersed by a cast that includes the following well known people: Dan Collyer, E. L. Snader, Wm. Cullington, W. S. Berry, Frank Lennox, John Weber, Carrie Collyer, Dickie Delaro, Nellie Hancock, Florence Hale, Lizzie Clifford and Baby Blanche. Next week, "Harbor Lights." Last week, "Coon Hollow."

KEITH'S THEATRE.—The Christmas week programme at this house includes the animated song sheet, with that talented vocalist, Sadie Fox, as the soloist, while the chorus is formed and given by the protrusion through the canvas of colored people's heads, each responsive to a note of the music. For the little ones Christmas pictures will be presented on the American biograph, and in the specialty line are Thorne and Carleton, the Midgleys, Lew Hawkins, Francelli and Lewis, Lina Pantzer, the Northern Troupe, McBride and Goodrich, the Three Morello Brothers, the Reed Family, Frank Jones and Lillian Walton, Crowley and Foley, Iler, Burke and McDonald, Pat and Mattie Rooney, the Diamond Comedy Four, William De Bar, Val Vino, Bessie Searle, and Mason and Titus

PALACE THEATRE.—There is no diminution in the attendance at this popular house. One big show has followed another, and the success of the house is the talk of the town. The entire staff in front of the house has been changed. Fred Scherman, formerly of Hooley's Theatre, Chicago, has been appointed advertising agent, to succeed James Casey; on Monday, 20, a new orchestra, under the direction of H. W. Bullock, will provide the music, and other changes will be found, all, by the way, for the best interests of the house. The attraction for the current week will be Rice & Barton's Rose Hill English Folly Co., presenting two lively burlesques, "The Gay Grass Widow" and "The Wicked City," with a number of first class specialties by the Casino Comedy Four, Cain and Mack, Hickey and Nelson, Blanche Newcomb, Williard and Gebhardt, Billy Doust, Joe Palmer, Wm. B. Mitchell and Frank E. Mitchell, and the Amazonian tug of war will furnish the house patrons with unlimited fun. Next week, Irwin Bros.' Burlesquers and the Barrison Sisters are booked here.

GRAND THEATRE.—"The Boy Tramp" was given here last week to very fair business, and is followed this week by "The Ranch King," with Wallace Campbell, Isabel Pitt Lewis and the Grand Theatre stock in the cast. The play is from the pen of J. D. Clifton, and will be staged under the personal supervision of J. K. Keane. In the vaudeville are Thomas and Watson, Blanche Andrews, Moran and Wesley, Johnson and McKay, George and Maud Ricketts, John H. Murtha, Prof. Schlam and Dan Jackson, the footless dancer. Next week, Frank Lavarie, in "The James Boys."

AUSTIN & STONE'S MUSEUM.—The Havanese Toreadors have drawn huge crowds to this house, but they are now in their last week in the lecture hall. It is also the last week of the picturesque production, "A Holiday in Seville," but the engagement of Ronzani's beautiful revolving art tableaux still continues to delight hundreds daily. On the stage for the current week are the Marvelous Zarros, Danny and Dolly Mann, the only Lew Benedict, Ritchie and Ritchie, the Brothers Coates, Louise Dempsey, Joe Fox, Fred Hart, Gorman and West, Winstanley Brothers, Pretty Patty Poole, Murphy and Murphy, the Curzon Sisters, Tom Webb, Ada Carter, McDonald and Buchanan.

THE ZOO.—The star of the day at the Zoo is "Great Peter the Small," the six and a half pound, twenty-two inch high, well proportioned miniture edition of seventeen year old humanity. He is, indeed, a wonder to look upon. He has been visited by thousands during the past week, and is a prince of pets with the ladies. The Orissa Twins, from India, is another freak of Dame Nature, who has linked them together for life in bonds absolutely indissoluble. Other attractions: The gingerbread factory, the giant steers, the baby cows, the chicken incubator, etc., and last, but not least of all, the great collection of living wild animals, serve to make up one of the most novel shows ever seen in this city.

HOWARD ANTHENÆUM.—Robie's Bohemian Burlesquers come here week of 20 and will be seen in the musical burletta, entitled "On Board the Yacht Bohemia." In the olio are Van and Nobriga, Fields and Wooley, Flo Jansen, Jere Mahoney, the Martiere Sisters, the Hesleys, Weston and Beasley, Pete Le Maire, Will White, Needham and Jones, Lily Allyn and Georgia Lingard, Victor V. Vass, Sheehan and Lacy, Belle King, W. H. Burke, Neil Matthews, Alice Clifford and Larkins and Brandow, comedians.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Fred Rider's new Night Owls are booked here for week of 20, and will present a strong array of vaudeville stars, first presenting the snappy burlesque, "Punch," the scene of which is laid in Cuba, with a troubadour for a hero and plenty of heroines. During the presentation of the skit operatic medleys and popular songs and dances will be introduced, and in the interpolated olio are May Clark Van Osten, the Carmen Sisters, Florence Thiroff, the Leon Sisters, Lew H. Carroll, Bobby Ralston, Chas. Falke, Anna Yale, Gertie Keith, Ollie Atherton, Agnes Castle, Maud Elston, Lillie Vedder, Daisy Randall and Abbie Carlton.

THE NICKELODEON.—Manager Fred Samuels is making a dead sure "go" of his little house, and the prime attractions he furnishes in his two large curio halls, together with taking, catchy shows in the cozy theatre, serve to fill the house daily, afternoon and evening.

NOTES.—John Drew, in "A Marriage of Convenience," will follow Richard Mansfield at the Hollis. ......"The Geisha" is booked for an early production at the Tremont......Week of Jan. 3 "Brother for Brother" will be presented at the Grand Opera. ......Col. Frank P. Stone, of Austin & Stone's Museum, goes South for a week or two to get rid of his "tired feeling." He will visit Palatka, Fla., first, to look over his big orange grove, and afterward will go to Burmuda to hunt up curios for the museum..... "The Mysterious Mr. Bugle," Madeline Lucette Ryley's new farce, comes to the Tremont in a short time......Early in the new year Andrew Mack will present "An Irish Gentleman" at the Boston Museum......The Castle Square Theatre will hereafter, in case of a sudden shower, or snow storm coming up during a performance, provide patrons of the house with umbrellas (as a loan) free of charge. It will be a matter of curiosity to see how many will "hold up the tents." The Castle Square takes the lead of our city show houses in this important innovation.......That great scenic melodrama, "The Heart of the Klondike" will be staged New Year's week at the Columbia.......Manager A. H. Canby, of "The Circus Girl," now at the Museum, will sail for Europe in a short time on business connected with his and Chas. Frohman's amusement enterprises........"Cumberland 61" follows "The Circus Girl," and will be presented with the original cast and stage effects at the Museum......Beginning afternoon of 28 a series of artists' matinees will be inaugurated at the Castle Square Theatre, to continue on every succeeding Tuesday afternoon. On these occasions each adult patron will be presented with an imperial size portrait of some one member of the company, so that weekly visits to the theatre will result in obtaining pictures of the entire stock in due time....J. Walter Kennedy, the tragedian, will shortly star the New England circuit with Katherine Moot, of Syracuse, as his leading support.......The Hanlon "Superba" Co. arrived in Boston by a special train on Sunday morning, and their several car loads of scenery and stage effects were at once transferred to the Boston Theatre. Hope Booth, who closed at the Howard Athenæum evening of 18, completed at that time her one hundred and forty-fourth consecutive appearance since she came to Boston last December........Keith's Bijou Opera House (adjoining his new theatre) has been thoroughly renovated and improved. The entrance has been repainted and very handsomely decorated, and other portions of the house made to correspond. Frank Daniels, in "The Idol's Eye," comes week of Jan. 3 to the Tremont. Gus Hill's Gay Burlesquers will be at the Howard next week. ......Beginning Jan. 3 there will be a reproduction of "The Passion Play" at the Museum, as given by the peasants of Horitz, Austria.

Fall River.—At the Academy of Music Rice's Comedians, week of Dec. 13, proved to be one of the best, if not the best, repertory companies seen here this season, yet suffered the usual ante Christmas light business. The attractions certainly merited the full capacity at each performance. Specialties by Messrs. Mantell, Beals, Chamberlain, Miss Ryan and Little Mona, also the clever work of Chas. P. Rice, Chas. F. Keene and Emily Lascelles are worthy of special mention. Dr. Nansen comes 21, "The White Slave" 25, the Clementine De Vere Grand Concert Co. (Star course) 29, "Other People's Money" 31–Jan. 1.

RICH'S THEATRE.—Jermon's "Black Crook" came Dec. 13–15, to good business, and gave one of the burlesque treats of the season. Mureal, Gardner, Gilmore and Harris, as a trio, and Smith and Champion divided the honors. Louis Robie's aggregation, the Bohemians, certainly caught on well in the Spindle City 16–18. Van and Nobriga and Flo. Jansen were particularly strong favorites. Opening 20: Welby Pearl, Keys and Harris, Marion Sawtelle, Prince Wataubee's Jap Troupe, Alex. Wilson, McLean and Hall, Ed. Carey, the Nondescript Trio, Madge Tremain, Stanley and Marlowe, the Patnauds and the Nelson Sisters. Robie's Knickerbockers come 30–Jan. 1.

CASTO THEATRE.—Another good week's business stands to the credit of the Casto, the receipts 13–18 having been more than satisfactory. Jessie Couthoui, in a refined monologue; Gertrude Haynes, and the Unique scored emphatic successes. Week of 20: Milton and Dolle Nobles, in a sketch, "Bilgeville Junction;" Geraldine Allen and Carrie Lee Stoyle, in "Two Women Who Dared;" Merritt and Gallagher, Raymond and West, J. P. Ornson, Peter A. Lee, and Lexow and Davis. Silver souvenirs will be given to the ladies Christmas week.

NICKELODEON MUSEE.—Manager Sheedy offers Louis Bedford's Kentucky Minstrels as the attraction for Christmas week, and no doubt they will repeat their previous successes. The new improvements recently made at this resort have proved to be of great advantage both to Mr. Sheedy and his numerous patrons. Week of 29: Mason and Titus Marionettes, Burke, Emerson and Ruhe, and Hornman the magician, with others. Business continues to be at par.

NOTES.—During the week Manager Haynes, of the Casto, has closed with Robert Hilliard, Richard Harlow and Dora Wiley for appearances......Wm. Harbeck and wife are resting in town......Peter A. Lee, Fall River's favorite mimic and impersonator, makes his debut in vaudeville at the Casto week of 20......Manager A. E. Rich will build and manage a theatre at Mount Hope Park the coming season......The Quequeteant Wheelmen attended the Casto Theatre in a body Thursday evening, Dec. 16......Johnnie Quigley Waite, trick violinist, and the Kismet Mandolin and Singing Trio were the entertainers at a whist party held by the Quequeteant 'Cycle Club evening of 14......Wm. E. Colby, the Casto's scenic artist, has completed two handsome interiors, which are much admired......Flo Jansen, of Robie's Bohemian Burlesquers, was presented with a bouquet by members of the press of Fall River in appreciation of her clever work.

Lowell.—At the Opera House Katherine Rober played a return date week ending Dec. 18, with Raymon Moore as an additional drawing card, to fair sized houses. Fanny Davenport, in "Fedora" and "La Tosca," comes 22, 23, for which there is a large advance sale. Billy Barry, in "A Rising Generation," 25.

MUSIC HALL.—Robie's Bohemian Burlesquers gave a first class show 13–15, to big houses. "A Big Heart" came 16–18, to good business. Rush's White Crook Co. comes 20–22, "Coon Hollow" 23–25.

HUNTINGTON HALL was destroyed by fire 14. The fire started at 9 o'clock in the evening, and at one time it looked as if Music Hall, which is just across the street, was in danger, and the management of the latter house decided to close the performance, but the fire department confined the fire to the limits of Huntington Hall Building. During the twenty-five years previous to 1892 nearly every prominent actor of that time appeared on the stage of this house. The matter of rebuilding has not yet been decided.

NICKELODEON.—Markham and Goldie, Charles Prouty, Belle Morris, Tom Gilmore, Doke Delaska, Salvail, Alice Sablon are billed for week commencing 20.

Lawrence.—At the Opera House Elmer E. Vance's "Patent Applied For" held the boards Dec. 13, 14, to fair houses. "Never Again" pleased a select audience 15. The Boston Star course filled the bill 17, with the Euterpe Banjo and Harp Co., playing to a good house. "Superba" played to a top heavy house 18. "The Great Diamond Robbery" comes 25. "The Girl From Paris" 27, 28, "The Tornado" 31–Jan. 1, "Mysterious Mr. Bugle" 4.

NEW THEATRE.—Business at this house is only moderate. Prof. Carpenter gave his scenes in hypnotism 13–15. "Always on Time" was booked and billed for 16–18, but it was not what its name implied, failing to appear, the house being dark the remainder of the week. Coming: "Coon Hollow" 20–22, "A Trip to Coontown" 23 25. Manager Charles Gorman of this house closes his contract on 30, severing his connection with the house.

Worcester.—At the Worcester Theatre "The Walking Delegate," Dec. 14, appeared to a light house, and was the only attraction of the week. Anthony Hope comes 21, "My Friend from India" 25.

LOTHROP'S OPERA HOUSE.—The Gormans, in "Mr. Beane from Boston," drew big houses last week. William Jerome, in "A Jay in New York," comes 20; "On the Bowery" 27–Jan. 1.

BIJOU THEATRE.—Crowded houses was the rule all last week. The following are booked for week of 20–25: Collins and Collins, Leonard and Fulton, the Mexican Troubadours, Griffin and Cowper, Killeen and Murphy, Kid St. Onge, Madison Bros., Tom Haverly and Blanche Fernandez.

FRANCIS WILSON, who was booked for Worcester Theatre, Dec. 18, was obliged to cancel on account of sickness.

Lynn.—At the Lynn Theatre Frohman's "Never Again" came Dec. 13, to a big business. Maud Gonne, the "Joan of Arc of Ireland," gave a lecture on Ireland, before a large audience, 17. William Barry was seen in "The Rising Generation" by a large audience 18. Waite's Comedy Co. comes 20, for a two week's engagement. Margaret Mather Jan. 3, 4.

MUSIC HALL.—This house has been dark the past week. The London Theatre Specialty Co. is booked for 23–25. Flynn & Sheridan's "City Sports" 27–29, Robie's Bohemian Burlesquers 30–Jan. 1.

ARKANSAS.

Hot Springs.—The Opera House has been dark the past week, and will remain so until Dec. 18, when Al. G. Field's Negro Minstrels come. "Cracker Jack," billed for 16, failed to come, and is reported collapsed. Booked: Walker Whiteside 21, "The Dazzler" 23, Tim Murphy Christmas matinee and night, "Fabio Romani" 29.

JOHNSON'S AMPHITHEATRE.—The performance at this house the past week has been excellent and business has been in proportion. Though the entire company remain over for week of 13, an entire change of programme and acts is given. The week's bill includes a comedy sketch, "The Book Agent;" Wm. Kelly, ladder act; Johnson and Dutton, clown; Beckett and Atkinson, Japanese swinging wire; Effie Dutton and Josie Duncan in songs and dances; Prof. Shumate, trained dogs and ponies; Master Jimmie Dutton, bounding wire act; the Becketts, aerial act and flying trapeze; Abe Johnson, bareback rider. The local police force benefit 17, the house being already sold out in advance. Col. Johnson's Saturday candy matinees for ladies and children are popular.

OHIO.

Cincinnati.—Musical Cincinnati at least was interested in the presentation of a new opera at the Auditorium. "Blanc et Noir," composed by Cavaliere Pier Adolfo Tirindelli, was put on under his direction, and with three Cincinnati songstresses assuming the characters in the creation. None of the three has had any stage experience. All are favorably known in concert, and the chorus of Pierrettes and Pierots consisted of members of Tecla Vigna's operatic department. Clara Doty Rimanoczy took the part of Pierrette and Rose C. Shay and Jeanne L'Hommedieu were the Pierots—black and white. While the Bostonians were here H. C. Barnabee and others attended a rehearsal of the little opera, and it is possible that it may have a future upon the professional stage. In the musical prelude before the opera Jessie B. Caldwell and Lily Hollingshead James were heard and seen.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Julia Marlowe is to present "For Bonnie Prince Charlie" 20, and during the week she will be seen in "Romeo and Juliet," "As You Like It" and "Ingomar." "The Sporting Duchess" was magnificently staged and grandly played, but Cincinnati did not appear to rave over the play, although the company received unstinted praise. "One Round of Pleasure" 26

WALNUT STREET THEATRE.—"A Railroad Ticket" will be put on 19. "The Nancy Hanks" amused audiences that ranged from pretty fair to good last week. Marie Jansen and Frank Tannehill shared the honors, although much applause went to their clever associates. Twelve Temptations 26.

PIKE OPERA HOUSE.—After the performances the house remains dark until Christmas day, when the new plans go into effect. The Neil Stock Company will then revive "The Charity Ball." Last season Cincinnati went vaudeville mad, but this year there have been too many bad weeks. Society seemed to tire of the fad. The Pike is one of the handsomest theatres in the West, and the return to stock company may preface a revolution in affairs dramatic. In the company are James Neil, Herschel Mayall, Joseph B. Everham, Charles F. Wyngate, Emmett Shackleford, Edward Tittman, Edith Chapman, Kate and Annie Blancke, Grace Scott, Jennie Daly, Agnes Maynard, Emma Lindberg and Elsie Bierbower. Walter Clark Bellows will be stage director.

HEUCK'S OPERA HOUSE.—"The Sidewalks of New York" will come 19. "McFadden's Row of Flats" played to good business last week. J. J. Corbett 26.

STAR THEATRE.—"Darkest Russia" was the play selected by the Brady Stock Company for interpretation 19. Selma Herman will be seen in her original creation, Ilda Barousky, and Willie Granger is cast as Alexis. "Woman Against Woman" drew audiences of fair size last week.

PEOPLE'S THEATRE.—Reilly & Wood's Company is due 19. Harry Morris' Twentieth Century Maids played to great business last week. Irene Young, as "Tril-il-be" in the burlesque, was about the cleverest little girl in the show. Williams' Own Company 26.

FOUNTAIN SQUARE THEATRE.—"Town Topics" will be on hand to be discussed 19. Al Reeves' Burlesque Company did a fair business last week. Hopkins' Trans-Oceanics 26.

AVERY'S MUSEUM.—In curio hall, 20: Prof. Hewes and Mme. Claire, Kit Whirlwind, Montana Bill and Chief Black Bear, with Propheter's Poultry Show, will provide the cards. "A Trip to the Klondike," Coin's Dog Circus, Goldie Routt, Kelly and St. Clair, George Damillaux, Marie Evans and John W. Foster, and the stock company, in "Lavinskie's Wife," were auditorium features. Business was great last week. The one armed boxers, Bob Minor and Sam Razor, proved magnets.

LOBBY GOSSIP.—The remodeling of Robinson's Opera House is rapidly nearing completion, and the house will be ready for occupancy early in January. Manager John Davis, of the Robinson estate, has not yet divulged the plans of the owners relative to reopening, but it is probable that an attempt will be made to lease it......Louis Battenberg has gone to New York......Manager M. C. Anderson is home from the metropolis......Harry Burns, of the Van Dale Brothers, has returned from Boston and may join the Lamonts......Alexander Weiss is starting out as a musical manager, and he is looking for Paul Haase and wife, Marie Schnill, Anna W. Lawrence, Lino Mattioli, Jose Marien and the Marien Quartet......Louise Byran, of the Ladies' Musical Club, goes to Boston to locate......The Banda Rossa will play at Music Hall 25, 26......Louis M. Thayer, a son of Al. Thayer, has "compiled" an operetta, which he calls "Sofani," and the refreshing confession was made that the work was "stolen." The selections are well made and arrangement meritorious. The work was given its first presentation at Hartwell, where the young author received an ovation.

Cleveland.—Inclement weather and the usual apathy anent things theatrical during the week preceding Xmas combined to make the past week decidedly dull. The strong reserve already taken for the Christmas days gives a ray of hope to the managers that the next week may retrieve the past one's shortcomings.

EUCLID AVENUE OPERA HOUSE.—"The Girl from Paris," a decidedly Frenchy combination, billed as a "musical comedy," played week 13, to fairly good business. The situations are strongly suggestive, and the songs and accompanying actions leave little for the imagination. The company is large, and, altogether, can be said to average very well. J. E. Sullivan, as Hans, does an especially fine piece of character work. Wm. Gillette and his own company, in "Secret Service," 20 and week; "A Stranger in New York" 27.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Primrose & West's Minstrels, and Donnelly and Girard, in "The Geezer," divided week or 13. Business only averaged fair throughout the week. The Ben Mowat trio of club swingers with P. & W. Minstrels made a most decided hit. "The Geezer" was also well received and proved a creditable entertainment. Robert Mantell, accompanied by Charlotte Behrens, present "A Secret Warrant" week of 20. This will be the first presentation of the play in Cleveland. "Sowing the Wind" 27–Jan. 1.

STAR THEATRE.—Fay Foster's Extravaganza Company did nicely 13 and week. The burlesques, "Love's Dilemma" and "Fun on a Yacht," were handsomely staged and costumed. The olio was also clever and embraced Malle Little, soprano; Monte Collins and Emma Miller, sketch; Snyder and Buckley, musical turn; Dryden and Leslie, and Carrie Ezier. The Vaudeville Club Burlesquers will entertain Christmas week and Steve Brodie and Gus Hill's New York Stars follow during New Year's week.

CLEVELAND THEATRE.—"Darkest Russia," 14 and week, had fair business. "Down in Dixie" and the Pickaninny Band perform 20 and week, "The Last Stroke" 27 and week.

CUES.—The Banda Rossa is booked at Music Hall Dec. 21......The Association Engineer Co., one of our crack military commands, repeated their minstrel show, recently performed at Y. M. C. A. Hall, at the Glenville Opera House Dec. 18, and gave an especially fine show. Much credit is due to Lieut. E. G. Lane and Capt. Beardsley, who acted as interlocutors, for the smoothness of the entire entertainment.......The Christmas entertainment at the Euclid Avenue Opera House, afternoon Dec. 17, under the auspices of *The Cleveland Press*, for the benefit of charity, was a decided success, artistically and financially. One act each of the various shows playing here was given and much enjoyed. ......In order to fulfill her promise to appear at the benefit Carrie Ezier, with the Fay Foster Co., had to do some tall hustling. She was scheduled to appear at the Opera House at 3.30 P. M.; at 3.58 she entered the carriage in waiting for her on Sheriff Street, and at 4 o'clock she was singing and kicking her heels in the air at the Star. Malle Little sang a repertory of soprano ballads and made a splendid impression.

Dayton.—At the Grand Opera House "The Whirl of the Town" drew a good sized house Dec. 14. Joseph Jefferson, in "The Cricket on the Hearth" and "Lend Me Five Shillings," was greeted by a magnificent house 16. The old favorites, Primrose & West's Minstrels, drew two splendid houses, matinee and evening, 18. "My Friend from India" comes 20.

PARK THEATRE.—Weber's Parisian Widows, one of the best burlesque companies that has appeared at this house, did splendid business during their stay 13–16. The American Indian actress, Go-won-Go Mohawk, drew fairly well 16–18. The New York Stars and Steve Brodie come 20–22. Al Reeves' Co. 23–25.

SOLDIERS' HOME THEATRE.—Al. G. Field comes 24.

NOTES.—A deal has just been consummated whereby the management of the Dayton theatres changes hands. The houses have for the past fourteen years been under the Dickson circuit. As it is now the lease goes to the Valentine Co., of which Geo. H. Ketchem, of Toledo, is the head. This puts Dayton in the circuit with Toledo, Columbus and Indianapolis. The present manager, Harry E. Feicht, has been representing the Dicksons here for seven years. Mr. Feicht is highly respected in this city, both as a manager and as a citizen, and has been foremost in all charitable entertainments. Mr. Dickson is quoted as saying, however, that they have no intention of abandoning the field after having had charge so long. This, of course, will mean a new theatre for Dayton and added attractions. Mr. Feicht will remain with the Dicksons, whether he remains in Dayton or takes some other field. Who the Valantine Co. will select to represent them in this city is yet a matter of conjecture.

Toledo.—At the Valentine Theatre, Dec. 13 Denman Thompson, in "The Old Homestead," had good business. On Dec. 14–15, Wm. H. Crane had good business. Robert Mantell, 16, had fair patronage. "The Whirl of the Town," 17, 18, had good business. "The Wizard of the Nile" comes 20, Banda Rossa 22, "The Salt of the Earth" 23–25, "What Happened to Jones" 27, Al G. Field's Minstrels 29, Julia Marlowe 30–Jan. 1.

PEOPLE'S THEATRE.—"McSorley's Twins" had good business Dec. 12–15. Hopkins' Trans-Oceanic Star Specialty Co. comes 20–25.

WONDERLAND.—During 13–19: Curio hall—David D. Rankin and Herman Hansdorfer. Theatre—Forrester and Floyd, Chas. Inness, Hines and Remington, J. W. Dempsey and the American biograph. 20–25: Curio hall—Kentucky Frank and Little Fawn, Scheidler and John Thompson. Theatre: Walt. Terry and Nellie Elmer, McDonough Bros. Trio, Burke and Gray, May Russell and the biograph.

NEW ERIE THEATRE.—During 13–19: Miller and Raymond and the stock company, including Grace Earle, Adel Halford, May Lane, Edna Lester, Frank Kendall, Geo. Mackay, Joe Williams, Billy Baker, D. C. Manning. 20–26: The Barnells, Ed. J. Carroll and stock company above, in "The False Friend." Frank Burroughs retires as proprietor of the New Erie Theatre on Dec. 20 to devote his entire time to his hotel. He will be succeeded by Geo. Harris, who has been his stage manager for the past two years.

Sandusky.—At Nielson Opera House, Dec. 13, a benefit minstrel entertainment was tendered to W. K. Ruttere, ex-manager of the Nielson Opera House, who has suffered the total loss of his eyesight. One of the largest audiences of the season was in attendance and a handsome sum was realized for this worthy object. Guy Bros.' Minstrels were poorly patronized 17. Bookings: "O'Hooligan's Wedding" 20, "Darkest Russia" 22, Russell's Comedians, booked for 25, canceled; Daniel Ryan, week of 27, "The Hearthstone" Jan. 4, "The Nancy Hanks" 6, Cissy Fitzgerald 8.

MAHALA HALL.—Mrs. M. B. Beeke lectured Dec. 17.

ARTHUR LEDYARD, aeronaut, was last week acquitted by a jury of the charge of murder. While making a balloon ascension last August, Ledyard fired a revolver as a signal to release the balloon, and, not knowing the weapon was loaded, fired into the crowd, instantly killing a spectator named Fred C. Linder.

Columbus.—At the Great Southern Theatre W. H. Crane Dec. 13, Denman Thompson 14 and Jos. Jefferson 15, all played to standing room. "The Whirl of the Town" had a good house 16. Robert Mantell did fairly well 17, 18. Banda Rossa comes for one performance 23. Al. G. Field closes the week with two performances 25.

HIGH STREET THEATRE.—Al. Reeves' Specialty Co. opens for the first half of the week 20. Go-Won-Go Mohawk had fair business 13–15. "A Boy Wanted" packed the house at all the performances 16–18. Hill's New York Stars come 23–25

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—The Neill Stock Co. open 20 with "The Jilt," for three nights and matinee. "The Galley Slave was given an excellent presentation week of Dec. 13–18.

Akron.—Edward Milton Royle produced "Capt. Impudence" at the Grand Opera House Dec. 13, to a small house. "O'Hooligan's Wedding" had poor business 14. "The Wizard of the Nile" was warmly received by a fair sized house 15. "Pudd'nhead Wilson" had fair business 16. Primrose & West's Minstrels had a large and well pleased audience 17. "Darkest Russia" comes 20, Guy Brothers' Minstrels (benefit Local Lodge Theatrical Association) 21, "The Hearthstone" Christmas afternoon and evening.

ASSEMBLY THEATRE.—Donnelly and Girard, in "The Geezer", had big business 15. Fay Foster's Extravaganza Co. comes 20, Oriental Japanese Co., 22–25, Chas. A. Gardner 27.

Steubenville.—At the City Opera House Renfrow's Pathfinders have had fair business Dec. 13–18. Dan Sully comes 22, Reil & Abby's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" 25. Joseph Murphy, in "Kerry Gow," 27.

LONDON THEATRE.—Week of 13: Bryant and McCoy, Armstrong Bros., Zella Clayton, Rossley and Lee, Frankie Kerr, Irene Griffin, Garland Sisters, and stock. Week of 20: Gracie Barttle, Chas. Inness, Della Pino, Belle Emmerson, Murry and McCoy, Mason and White, and Frankie Kerr.

Canton.—At the Grand Opera House Edward Milton Royle, Dec. 14, gave an excellent performance to only a fair sized house. Corbett and Fitzsimmon's Vitascope drew good houses 15, 16; the views were fine. "Pudd'nhead Wilson" gave a fine show, to a fair sized house, 17. "Hearthstone" is due 27, and Al. G. Field's Minstrels 31.

Mansfield.—At the Memorial Opera House "A Contented Woman" had S. R. O. Dec. 13. Kirk La Shell's Comic Opera Co. presented "The Wizard of the Nile" to a crowded house, 16. "My Friend from India" comes Christmas night, "Darkest Russia" is to come 22, "For Fair Virginia" 30.

Zanesville.—At Schultz's Opera House "A Contented Woman," with Belle Archer in the leading role, came Dec. 15, to S. R. O., and was enthusiastically received. "For Fair Virginia" comes 25, matinee and evening, The Brownies 27, Wm. H. Crane 30. At Memorial Hall Slayton's Jubilee Singers came 14, to good business.

Springfield.—At Black's Opera House Kellar, the magician, had a well filled house Dec. 6. "A Contented Woman" had the finest audience of the season 16. Banda Rossa comes 24, "Sowing the Wind" 25.

WISCONSIN.

Milwaukee.—Cold weather has affected business very materially, and the attendance generally has fallen off quite considerably.

DAVIDSON THEATRE.—With the exception of Monday evening (Press Club night) the attendance during last week was light to see "Under the Red Robe." Dec. 19–21 the house will be dark. 22–25, Lillian Russell, Jefferson De Angelis and Della Fox, in "The Wedding Day." Wilton Lackaye, in "The Royal Secret," 26–29; Willie Collier, in "The Man from Mexico," 30–Jan. 2; week of 3, Herbert Kelcey and Effie Shannon, in "A Coat of Many Colors."

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—Business was heavy all last week. Opening 19: Hagihara's Japanese Troupe and Edna Bassett Marshall, the Mimic Four, Ward and Curran, Almont and Dumont, La Porte Sisters, Pantzer Trio, Leavitt and Nevello, Three Nevans, Chicago Church Choir Quartet and Madeline Marshall. Coming week of 26, "The Isle of Champagne."

BIJOU OPERA HOUSE.—Fitzsimmons' Vaudeville and Athletic Co. has played to fair business. For week of 19, Hoyt's "A Black Sheep." Coming week of 26, "The Woman in Black."

ACADEMY.—The Crystal Slipper Burlesquers played to slim houses except on the opening night. For week of 19, "Robin Hood Jr.," headed by Helen Russell. Coming week of 26, "The World Against Her."

PABST THEATRE.—German stock—"Die Rantzau," played to good business night of 12. "Tedem das Seine" and "Das Wetterhauschen," both new, were greeted by a large house and were well received 15. For night of 19, "Die Versunkene Glocke" (The Sunken Clock), a fairy drama, by Gerhardt Hauptmann, will be produced for the first time in this city. Arion Musical Society, in the "Messiah," 20. "Die Versunkene Glocke" will be repeated 22. "Tonti," an historical drama by Mercker, one of the editors of "*The Illinois Staats Zeitung*," will receive its initial presentation on any stage 25.

OLYMPIA MUSEE AND THEATRE.—Business is light. For week of 20—Bijou stage: Gregory and Burgess, Juvenile Comedians. Curio hall: Goliath, strong man; Dr. Howard, painless tooth extractor; Lillie Lawler, fortune teller, and Al. Conlan, Punch and Judy. Theatre: Burgess and Burgess, acrobatic comedians; Forrester and Floyd, sketch team; Maximillian and Shields, comedians.

NICKELODEON.—Business fair for week of 20. Curio hall: Corchan, mental wonder; Dr. Zacrus, wise man of Mt. Carmel; J. C. Glenn, champion boxer; Pearl Robinson, midget, and Punch Ross. Bijou stage: Ad. Yale, black face act, and Renzo, contortionist. Theatre: Ozave, juggler; Charles Le Roy, Dutch comedian; Charles Beckley, monologuist; Fred Hemming, tramp specialty; Viola Clifford, serio comic; Mae Belle, vocalist, and the Musical Macks, closing with the farce, "Krausmeyer's Reception."

NOTES.—Mrs. Uhlein has donated $2,000 for a Christmas tree for the poor children, and on Wednesday afternoon Manager O. F. Millen, of the Alhambra, will act as master of ceremonies and distribute presents from the theatre stage. The tree is thirty-five feet high, and will fairly groan with toys, candies, fruit, etc., and many a little heart will be made glad by the generosity of Mrs. Uhlein and the Alhambra management......Capt. Frietsch, after a tempestuous voyage, arrived at Grand Haven, Mich., Saturday afternoon, 11, almost frozen to death......Harry A. Pond has bought the lease of the Academy from John Cort, effective Dec. 20. All contracts made by Mr. Cort will hold good under the new management. Mr. Pond intends to continue running the theatre as a burlesque house, but states that it will be his honest endeavor to cater to the better class of theatregoers, and hopes soon to have the women in line at his house, something that has not happened since the first week of the late management. Anything of an objectionable nature will be eliminated, and he hopes within a short time to have a liberal patronage from the fairer sex.

Fond du Lac.—At the Crescent, Dec. 13, Black Patti's Troubadours had fair business. The Meredith Sisters were favorites with the audience. "The Electrician" came 18, to good business......At Armory E, 16, "Chimes of Normandy," by local talent, under the direction of Mrs. A. C. Blankenburg, was given, before a big audience.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington.—An excellent attraction at each of our playhouses brought good business and made both local and traveling managers happy. At Albaugh's Lafayette Square Opera House the Damrosch-Ellis Grand Opera Co. presented four operas, "Traviata," "Lohengrin," "Carmen" and "Faust," each to the capacity of the house at more than double the regular prices. No opera being given on Wednesday night, the house was well filled to witness a performance of "Rosedale," by the members of the Carroll Institute Dramatic Club. The cast was given in last week's letter, and it is but simple justice to say that each role was most acceptably filled, and the production was excellent. It would be unfair to mention any particlular part as being well played where all did so well. This week, "Cumberland '61," under the management of Augustus Pitou, should do well, notwithstanding the week preceding Christmas is always a poor one for theatres here. "Secret Service" 27–Jan. 1.

RAPLEY'S NATIONAL THEATRE.—James A. Herne, in "Shore Acres," reached its fifteen hundredth performance on the opening night, and the house was well filled during the entire week, and in the hands of Mr. Herne and his really excellent support it is as popular with our playgoers as Jefferson's "Rip Van Winkle" or Denman Thompson's "Old Homestead." This week George H. Broadhurst's "What Happened to Jones" is receiving its first Washington presentations, and the announced roster of the company should insure for it most favorable recognition. Fanny Davenport 27–Jan. 1.

METZEROTT'S COLUMBIA THEATRE.—Roland Reed, most admirably assisted by Isadore Rush and a fine company, presented what was considered by far the best comedy in which he has ever been seen here. It has taken several years for Mr. Reed to capture Washington, but he certainly has succeeded now, if large and appreciative audiences are to be considered signs, for his houses were crowded even up to Saturday night, and that night is always the poorest here for any attraction. This was one of the few engagements of the season that could have been profitably extended another week. This week Lumiere's cinematographe presentation of "The Passion Play," as produced by the devout peasants of Hovitz, in the Bohemian forests of Oberammergau. The moving pictures are accompanied by a descriptive lecture by Prof. Ernest Lacy, and under the direction of Dr. W. W. Freeman, under whose auspices the pictures were taken. Christmas week seems a most appropriate season for such a production, and it will undoubtedly meet with abundantly satisfactory financial results, and probably extend its engagement for the following week, as there is no underline for 27–Jan. 1.

RAPLEY'S ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—"Two Little Vagrants," for the first time here at popular prices, had a large following all last week. The company is fully as good as the one which appeared in it here last season at popular prices. Mildred Holland and Edith Fassett were noticeably good in their roles as the two little vagrants. This week the Rays, in "A Hot Old Time;" "Humanity" 27–Jan. 1.

KERNAN & RIFE'S GRAND OPERA HOUSE had one of last year's successes—this time at popular prices. The play has lost none of its attractiveness since it was last seen here. It is staged equally as well, and the company is fully up to that heretofore seen here in it. The auditorium was well filled at each performance. This week Barney Ferguson and Sam J. Ryan, in "McCarthy's Mishaps." A star engagement is announced for 27–Jan. 1, Mrs. Fiske, in "Tess of the D'Urbervilles." During this engagement the prices will be advanced to standard prices.

KERNAN'S LYCEUM THEATRE.—"Vanity Fair," a merry conglomeration of much that was good and little that was inferior, crowded the auditorium during the greater part of last week. This week Sam Devere's Co. is paying us his annual visit. Russell Bros.' Comedians 27–Jan. 1.

BIJOU THEATRE.—A very pleasing show is being given twice a day at 10c., 20c., 30c.

BERT COOTE, who has so admirably portrayed the character of Lord Brazenface in "The Wrong Mr. Wright," in the support of Roland Reed, retired from that company 18, and his place was most satisfactorily filled by Owen Westford, late of the "Miss Francis of Yale" Co. Mr. Coote will, with his wife, Julia Kingsley, join the high class vaudeville ranks, and open in the Keith circuit immediately after the holidays.

IOWA

Council Bluffs.—At the Dohany Theatre "Gillhooly's Reception," announced for Dec. 11, canceled. "The Broadway Girl" had inclement weather to contend with 12, and the attendance was small. Nellie McHenry, in "A Night in New York," drew a fair sized crowd 13. "Alabama" will be seen 19, "A Bunch of Keys" 22, "Si Plunkard" 25......The house management retained the entire receipts of the Nellie McHenry engagement, and a settlement has not yet been effected. At the conclusion of the company's recent engagement in Omaha, Neb., it is alleged, the special scenery used was shipped direct to Denver, Col., where the company will fill an engagement, after playing a few one night stands. It is supposed that the impression is abroad that performances may be curtailed and specialties and scenery omitted when the house is played. It is contended that the very slip shod manner in which many plays have been put on during the past few seasons is responsible for the indifference of our theatregoers, and your correspondent is informed that the house management will deal vigorously with all shortcomings, and the entire fulfillment of all contracts will be insisted upon...... Gracie and Reynolds recently joined "The Broadway Girl."

Burlington.—At the Grand "Secret Service," Dec. 13, drew a good lower house, giving great satisfaction. "A Southern Romance" came 15 and deserved much better patronage than it received. "The Prisoner of Zenda" had fine outlook for 17, and "A Boy Wanted" had fair prospects for 18. Mrs. Fiske, in "Tess," comes 21; Murray and Mack 24, Fred'k Warde 25, "The Heart of Chicago" 27, the Bostonians 29, "Courted Into Court" 30.

Dubuque.—"The Prisoner of Zenda" was delightfully presented Dec. 14, to a good house, but not nearly as large as it deserved. "Secret Service" was welcomed 15 by a good house and was extremely well presented. "Doctor of Alcantara" (local) was given 16, 17. The Bostonians come 20, Frederick Warde, in "Iskander," 21; "The Broadway Girl" 25.

Davenport.—At the Burtis Opera House, Dec. 14, "Secret Service" was presented to standing room only. "A Southern Romance" comes 18, "A Boy Wanted" 19, "She" 20, Mrs. Fiske, in "Tess of the D'Ubervilles," 22; Murray and Mack 26.

LATEST BY TELEGRAPH.

Monday Night's Openings in All the Big Show Towns.

GOLDEN GATE GLEANINGS.

Ante-Christmas Attractions Draw Good Crowds—A Variety of Bills to Please All Tastes Make Up the Menu for the Week

[Special Dispatch to the New York Clipper.]

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—The Baldwin was dark last night, and will continue so until Christmas, when Stuart Robson and his company will appear.

COLUMBIA THEATRE.—Hoyt's "A Milk White Flag" opened its second week to a crowded house. Business is immense.

ALCAZAR THEATRE.—"The Girl I Left Behind Me" opened as the ante-Christmas attraction at this house. It was well cast and excellently staged.

TIVOLI OPERA HOUSE.—"Mother Goose" opened 18, to the usual crowded house, at this resort. It will no doubt be a profitable Christmas attraction.

MOROSCO'S GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"The War of Wealth" is the current attraction, and the opening last night was to a big house.

CALIFORNIA THEATRE.—"A Railroad of Love," by the Frawley Dramatic Co., was well presented and heartily received.

ORPHEUM THEATRE.—Caroline Hull and the Three Avolos are headliners on this week's bill.

FROM OTHER POINTS.

The Auditorium, Kansas City, Burned—The Ante-Christmas Depression Abroad, as Usual—Julia Marlowe Ill in Cincinnati—Vesta Tilley Opens Her First Anerican Tour at Philadelphia.

(Special Dispatches to The New York Clipper).

BOSTON, Dec. 21.—The week was inaugurated with a boom last night at our various theatres, and in every case the financial results were of the most gratifying kind. There is nothing very new presented, save the Hanlons' reconstructed "Superba," which is, indeed, a magnificent spectacular production, and evoked the warmest applause from the huge audience in the Boston Theatre. On the whole the programmes throughout are of a nature that served to attract excellent business all around. Appended is a list of the various attractions staged: Castle Square Theatre, "Hazel Kirke;" Grand Opera House, "The Great Diamond Robbery;" Columbia Theatre, "The Heart of Chicago;" Hollis Street Theatre, "In Town;" Park Theatre, "The Girl from Paris;" Boston Theatre, the Hanlons' "Superba;" Tremont Theatre, Francis Wilson, in "Half a King;" Boston Museum, "The Circus Girl;" Bowdoin Square Theatre, "Lost in New York."......At Keith's Theatre the animated song sheet proved a decided treat, and Sadie Fox's solos were roundly applauded.......At the Palace Theatre the Rose Hill English Folly Company drew in good money and appeared in two breezy burlesques......The Zoo was crowded day and evening, and Great Peter the Small held crowded receptions......The other popular price houses also flowed along on the current of success, to the great satisfaction of the managements.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21.—The nearness of Christmas and the wretched weather combined failed to keep the people away from the theatres last night, most of them being well filled......E. S. Willard and his excellent company presented "Tom Pinch" at the Broad, before a crowded house, with great success......Frank Daniels, in "The Idol's Eye," held over at the Chestnut Street Opera House and had a fair sized audience......The Chestnut was packed, Ward and Vokes opening in "The Governors."......A crowded house at the Walnut saw the first presentation here of "Sweet Inniscarra" by Chauncey Olcott......A fair sized audience enjoyed "The Geisha" at the Park, which held over from last week......The Vesta Tilley Company, opening its road season, proved an unusually strong attraction and crowded the Auditorium. Miss Tilley was warmly welcomed...... An audience that packed the theatre to the doors witnessed "The Man-o'-War's Man" at the National......The Grand Opera House is closed until Saturday......"All the Comforts of Home" was produced at the Grand and drew a full house ..... A big crowd witnessed the production of "The Unknown" at Forepaugh's......Dumont's Minstrels had a full house at the Eleventh Street Opera House......The Bijou had the usual big crowd......A packed house applauded the new stock company, in "The Lights o' London," at the Standard. Minnie Radcliffe, the leading lady, and John J. Farrell, the leading man, were received with favor, and the whole company seemed to please......"The Cherry Pickers" had a good house at the People's .....The Moulin Rouge Extravaganza Company at the Trocadero, Rentz Santley Company at the Lyceum, and the vaudeville attractions at the Museum all drew full houses.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—The weather could hardly be better for the openings, but in the most cases the interest which they deserved was not manifested in them. "The Adventure of Lady Ursula" was given its initial performance at Hooley's. E. H. Sothern and Virginia Harned held their old friends and gained more. The piece was pleasing, the performance artistic and the reception in accordance......"A Coat of Many Colors" was seen by a moderate house at the Columbia for the first time in Chicago. It was a success. Herbert Kelcey and Effie Shannon sustained the leading roles capably. Henry E. Dixey had only a fair house at the Great Northern. It was Comedian Dixey rather than Magician Dixey who caught the crowd......The Schiller was moderately filled when the curtain rose on Donnelly & Girard's production of "The Geezer."......Denman Thompson was greeted by a considerable gathering of old friends when he returned to McVicker's, after four years, to play "The Old Homestead."......"The Girl from Paris" went on at the Grand, with a slight decrease in business, on account of the season......"Visions of Art" and "The District Attorney" drew well at Hopkins'......Bob Fitzsimmons and his vaudeville company opened at Havlin's, to good business..... "A Contented Woman," at the Lincoln; "The Electrician," at the Alhambra; "The World Against Her," at the Bijou; "Northern Lights," at the Academy, and "Neck and Neck," at the Lyceum, played to fair business.....The Imperial was crowded Sunday.....The Olympic and Haymarket had good crowds......Sam T. Jack's, the Gaiety and Savoy entertained moderately large houses with burlesque and vaudeville.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—Inclemency of weather kept openings down at the various houses. Wilton Lackaye, in "The Royal Secret," opened to fair business at the Century Sunday. The character he portrays is not one in which he can be seen to advantage, yet curtain calls were responded to after each act by Lackaye and Miss Griffin......Modjeska opened to good business at the Olympic Monday, producing "Magda."......A cultured audience witnessed an exceedingly meritorious presentation of "Madame Sans Gene," by Kathyrn Kidder, at the Fourteenth Street Theatre, Sunday......The Imperial Theatre entertained the usual big Sunday audiences, and everybody left the house well satisfied. Wm. Redmond made his initial appearance and was warmly welcomed. "Don Cæsar De Bazan" was the attraction. ......Hopkins' Grand Opera House is exhibiting a novelty in "Visions of Art," "Esmeralda" is the drama by the stock, and the vaudeville is strong......"The Twentieth Century Maids," at the Standard, Sunday, drew one of the largest matinee audiences ever assembled there, and the show was given a warm welcome......"McFadden's Row of Flats" for laughing purposes does not belie its purpose, and the large audiences at Havlin's Sunday were well repaid for braving the elements.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—An all day rain yesterday, freezing as it fell, made tramway travel difficult and pedestrianism almost impossible, thereby seriously interfering with last night's openings. "What Happened to Jones" had a hearing at Rapley's National Theatre, and was a most pronounced success. The house was fair......"Cumberland '61," with a good cast, was well received at Albaugh's Lafayette Square Theatre. It is a war drama of unusual merit......The passion play, reproduced by the Lumiere process, was a strong attraction at Metzerott's Columbia Theatre, and the audience was liberally sprinkled with ministers of all creeds......The Rays, in "A Hot Old Time," had the best house of the town last night. The fun was incessant and the company excellent......Barney Ferguson and Sam J. Ryan headed a strong company of merry makers in "McCarthy's Mishaps" at Kernan & Rife's Grand Opera House......Sam Devere's opening at Kernan's Lyceum was not seriously interfered with by the rain. He had them standing up......Gotthold's Celebrities, consisting of the Washburn Sisters, Pete Baker, Cora Routt and several others, made up a bill at the Bijou which attracted two good houses.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 21.—Mme. Nordica appeared in concert, under the auspices of the local oratorio society, at the Coats last night, to a large and enthusiastic audience......Tom Nawn opened at the Grand Sunday matinee, in "Shantytown," to a good attendance, and drew a big house at night. He was vigorously rewarded for his artistic Irish impersonation......At the Ninth Street "The White Squadron" had a fair matinee, with a good night attendance......The Auditorium had two corking houses to see the Olifans. A. O. Duncan, Josephine Gassman and the stock put on "The Silver King." ......The Bostonians come three nights, commencing Thursday. There is an immense advance sale. ......[As we go to press the following dispatch comes from our correspondent—ED. CLIPPER.] The Auditorium was completely destroyed by fire at one o'clock this morning. It was Kansas City's largest and handsomest theatre, and was one of the finest playhouses in the West. It had just been put on a paying basis under the management of Paxton & Burgess. The bill this week was the Woodward Stock Co., in "The Silver King," and specialties by the Olifans, A. O. Duncan and Josephine Gassman. It is probable that the company may be transferred to the Gillis Opera House, which is now dark.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 21.—Julia Marlowe is ill with a very sore throat, and she will not be able to appear before Wednesday evening. The Grand is therefore dark .....Sunday audiences were good. The S. R. O. sign was out at the Star, where "Darkest Russia" was put on by the Brady Stock Company, and at the People's, where Reilly & Wood's Show opened......"A Railroad Ticket," at Walnut Street, and "Town Topics," at the Fountain Square, attracted good sized audiences......"The Sidewalks of New York" played to good business at Heuck's.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 21.—A stormy night prevented Marie Jansen from opening to a big house in "The Nancy Hanks." As it was the house was comfortably filled......Katie Emmett opened at the Avenue Sunday, to a big house. Last night's audience was fair......"A Scrap of Paper," at the Temple, drew a good sized audience......The Merry Maidens drew a crowded house at the Buckingham Sunday and a good audience last night.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 21.—At the Alhambra an exceptionally strong bill drew good houses, the Mystic Four being received with tumultuous applause......At the Bijou "A Black Sheep" was well received by large audiences......At the Academy the Robin Hood Burlesquers played to good business......At the Pabst "Die Sunkene Glocke," Sunday, was greeted by a big crowd, but the success of the piece is in doubt, a variety of opinions being expressed......The Arion Society, in "The Messiah," last night appeared before a packed house.

GEORGIA.

Savannah.—At the Savannah Theatre "The Brownies" had good houses for two performances Dec. 16. Prof. Carraway followed 17, 18, and was well patronized. The Woodward-Warren Co. comes 20, 21, "My Friend from India" 22, Robt. Downing 23, "A Stranger in New York" 25.

ALHAMBRA MUSIC HALL.—Manager Frye is making extensive preparations for Christmas week. Hesse and Hunt make a good impression. Chas. S. Knight continues to please. Wills and Barron are popular. The company for the holidays includes Jennie E. Leon, Burton and Boyce, and Jansen and Leaton.

TIVOLI MUSIC HALL.—Crowded houses every night witnessed McCusick's card for the week. "Jack the Ripper" proved a good attraction and will be repeated next week. Wily Williams' police act is a success. Bessie Nitram and Kittie Leslie are the new faces. Ami Boswell will be here for the holidays. Granville and De La Guerra will be here for a few weeks yet. Pepita was given a spread Dec. 17, in honor of her birthday. Capt. Brewer did the honors, and the following professionals attended: Jeanne Earle, Kittie Leslie, Ami Boshell, Pepita's mother and Manager Winter.

Atlanta.—At the Grand Palmer Cox's "Brownies" matinee and night of Dec. 20. The capacity of the house was tested 14, 15, when De Wolf Hopper and his company presented, for the first time in this city, "El Capitan." Mr. Hopper was received with enthusiasm. Edna Wallace Hopper came in for a liberal share of the applause. "Never Again" was presented 17, 18, to satisfactory results. Booked: "A Stranger in New York" 21, 22, "My Friend from India" 24, 25.

THE COLUMBIA.—Veriscope pictures of the Corbett-Fitzsimmons contest, at popular prices, 20 and week.

THE LYCEUM.—Darrell Vinton Co. 20 and week, at popular prices. The Arnold-Welles Players had good returns 13, 14 and 17, 18. "Miss Francis of Yale" pleased houses of good proportions 15, 16.

ED. HORINE, treasurer of the Grand, has returned, after a three weeks' trip in the West, much improved in health. He is again at his post in the box office.

Macon.—At the Academy of Music De Wolf Hopper, in "El Capitan," was well received by a large and aristocratic audience Dec. 13. "The Brownies" followed, and showed to a small audience, 15. "My Friend from India" comes 23.

PUTZEL'S VAUDEVILLE PALACE.—Business at this resort continues to be good. Wells and Barron are booked to open 20. People retained for 20 and week are: Kittie Chapman, Adele Lang, Eva Barnes, Rose Mendel, Frank Binney and George Mitchell.

COLORADO.—[See Page 708.]

Pueblo.—At the Grand Grilla's "Faust" came Dec. 10 and gave universal satisfaction. "In Old Kentucky" comes 14, "A Trip to Chinatown" 17. Katherine Alvord, formerly leading lady with Louis James, will appear here in Shakespearean characters 16.

DE REMER THEATRE.—"Side Tracked" held the boards 9, 10. Punch Robertson's Co. will be here 17, 18, giving "The Parisian Princess" first night, "The World" Saturday night, with "Cinderella" for a matinee.

On the Road.

All Routes Must Reach Us Not Later Than Monday.

DRAMATIC.

Akerstrom's, Ullie—Gloucester, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Newburyport 27-Jan. 1.
Arthur, Julia—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25, Newark, N. J., 27-Jan. 1.
Adams, Maud—N. Y. City Dec. 20, indefinite.
Arnold-Wells—Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 20-25.
"Always on Time"—Hartford, Ct., Dec. 22, Holyoke, Mass., 23-25.
"At Piney Ridge"—Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 20-25, Omaha, Neb., 27-29.
Byron's, Oliver—Scranton, Pa., Dec. 23-25, Bradford 31, Jan. 1.
Bell's, Digby—Keokuk, Ia., Dec. 22, Bloomington, Ill., 23, Indianapolis, Ind., 24, 25.
Bennett-Moulton—Brockton, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Taunton 27-Jan. 1.
Blaisdell & Brown—Warren, Ind., Dec. 20-25, Montpelier 27-Jan. 1.
Betts-Losee—Hampton, Ia., Dec. 22, Sumner 23-25, Adar Falls 27-29, Reinbeck 30-Jan. 1.
Barry's, Wm.—Lowell, Mass., Dec. 25, Hartford, Ct., 31, Jan. 1.
Breyer's, Maggie—Orleans, Ind., Dec. 20-25, Gosport 27-Jan. 1.
Bryan's Comedians—Ionia, Mich., Dec. 20-25, Greenville 27-Jan. 1.
Burns, Carrie Stanley—Albany, N. Y., Dec. 20-25.
Boston Theatre—Phillipsburg, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Clearfield 27-Jan. 1.
"Bunch of Keys"—Council Bluffs, Ia., Dec. 22, Des Moines, 23, Marshalltown 25.
"Baggage Check"—Norfolk, Va., Jan. 1.
"Boy Wanted," Eastern—Altoona, Pa., Dec. 25, Baltimore, Md., 27-Jan. 1.
"Belle of New York"—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25, Boston, Mass., 27, indefinite.
"Blue Jeans"—Geneva, N. Y., Dec. 31, Auburn Jan. 1.
"Brownies"—Zanesville, O., Dec. 27.
"Ballet Girl"—N. Y. City Dec. 21, indefinite.
"Breezy Time," Southern—McPherson, Kan., Dec. 22, Emporia 25, Burlington 27, Independence 29, Parsons 30, Chanute Jan. 1.
"Black Sheep"—Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 20-25.
"Breezy Time," Eastern—Fulton, N. Y., Dec. 22, Auburn 27, Canandaigua 28, Penn Yann 29, Watkins 30, Corning Jan. 1.
"Broadway Girl"—Marshalltown, Ia., Dec. 22, Cedar Rapids 23, Waterloo 24, Dubuque 25.
Crane's, W. H.—Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 22, Troy 23, Albany 24, New Haven, Ct., 25, Hartford 28, Providence, R. I., 30-Jan. 1.
Clements, Cameron—Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 23-25, Shamokin, Pa., 27-Jan. 1.
Chester, Alma—Glens Falls, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Schenectady 27-Jan. 1.
Columbian Comedy—Kenosha, Wis., Dec. 20-25, Racine 27-Jan. 1.
Cazeneuve, Paul—Evansville, Ind., Dec. 25.
Curt's Comedians—Orion, Ill., Dec. 20-25.
Clement's, Clay—Detroit, Mich., Dec. 23-25, Grand Rapids Jan. 1.
Chase-Lister—Krebs, I. T., Dec. 20-25, Clarksville, Tex., 28-Jan. 1.
Claxton's, Kate—Paterson, N. J., Dec. 25.
Corbett's, James J.—Cincinnati, O., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"Contented Woman"—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25, Des Moines, Ia., 28.
"Cherry Pickers"—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Pittsburg 27-Jan. 1.
"Cumberland '61"—Washington, D. C., Dec. 20-25, Brooklyn, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.
"Circus Girl"—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20, indefinite.
"Coat of Many Colors"—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25, Peoria 28.
"Chimmie Fadden"—Newburg, N. Y., Dec. 25, N. Y. City 27-Jan. 1.
"Cuba's Vow"—Hartford, Ct., Dec. 24, 25, Paterson, N. J., 27-29.
"Courted Into Court"—Springfield, Ill., Dec. 25, Decatur 27, Bloomington 28, Peoria 29, Burlington, Ia., 30, Cedar Rapids 31, Des Moines Jan. 1.
"Coon Hollow"—Lawrence, Mass., Dec. 22, Lowell 23-25, Manchester, N. H., 27-29, Chelsea, Mass., 30, Brockton 31, New Bedford Jan. 1.
Drew's, John—N. Y. City Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Donnelly & Girard's—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25, Des Moines, Ia., 29.
Dixey's, Henry E.—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25.
Downing's, R. L.—Savannah, Ga., Dec. 23.
Darling, James—Plainfield, N. J., Dec. 25.
Davenport's, Fanny—Lowell, Mass., Dec. 23, 24, Washington, D. C., 27-Jan. 1.
"Dazzler"—Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 22, Hot Springs 23, Dallas, Tex., 25.
"Down in Dixie"—Cleveland, O., Dec. 20-25, Detroit, Mich., 27-Jan. 1.
"Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde"—Newark, N. J., Dec. 20-25.
"Devil's Auction"—Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 22, Bridgeport, Ct., 27, Hartford 30.
Ellis, Sidney R.—Sandusky, O., Dec. 23, Tiffin 24, Lima 25, Ann Arbor, Mich., 27, Coldwater 29, Lansing 30, Flint 31, Bay City Jan. 1.
Eldon's Comedians—Shelbyville, Ind., Dec. 20-25, Franklin 27-Jan. 1.
Elroy Stock—Jamestown, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Meadville 27-Jan. 1.
Emmett's, Katie—Louisville, Ky., Dec. 20-25.
Earle's, Graham—Clinton, Mo., Dec. 20-25, Sedalia 27-Jan. 1.
Empire Theatre, Frohman's—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
"Electrician"—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
"Eight Bells"—Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 24, Trenton 25, Easton, Pa., 28.
Fiske, Mrs.—Davenport, Ia., Dec. 22, Peoria, Ill., 23, Terre Haute, Ind., 24, Evansville 25, Washington, D. C., 27-Jan. 1.
French, R. E.—Columbus, Ga., Dec. 20-25.
French's, Irving—Richmond, Ind., Dec. 23-25.
Ferris' Comedian—Faribault, Minn., Dec. 20-25, Mankato 27-Jan. 1.
"Foundling"—Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 20-29.
"Fairy's Well"—Pawtucket, R. I., Dec. 23-25.
"Fallen Among Thieves"—Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 23-25, St. Louis, Mo., 27-Jan. 1.
"French Maid"—N. Y. City Dec. 20, indefinite.
"For Fair Virginia"—Zanesville, O., Dec. 25, Mansfield, O., 30.
"Fast Mail"—N. Y. City Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Goodwin's, N. C.—N. Y. City Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Griffith, John—Lafayette, Ind., Dec. 23, Battle Creek, Mich., 25, Lansing 27, Bay City 28, Saginaw 29, Port Huron 30, Pretolia, Can., 31, London Jan. 1.
Gilmore & Leonard's "Hogan's Alley"—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Philadelphia, Pa., 27-Jan. 1.
Green's, Joseph—Nashua, N. H., Dec. 20-25, Newburg 27-Jan. 1.
Gibson-O'Mera—Pana, Ill., Dec. 22, Clinton 23, Pontiac 24, Joliet 25, Morris 27, Ottawa 28.
Gardner's, C. A.—Akron, O., Dec. 27.
Gorman Bros.'—Yonkers, N. Y., Jan. 1.
"Girl I Left Behind Me"—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"Gay New Yorker"—Fort Plain, N. Y., Dec. 22.
"Great Train Robbery"—Boston, Mass., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"Gay Matinee Girl"—Missoula, Mont., Dec. 22, Wallace, Idaho, 23, Spokane, Wash., 24, 25, Everett 27, New Whatcomb 28, Vancouver, B. C., 29, Nanaimo 30, Wellington 31, Victoria Jan. 1.
"Guilty Mother"—Baltimore, Md., Dec. 20-25, Wilmington, Del., 27, Reading, Pa., 28, 29, Paterson, N. J., 30-Jan. 1.
"Great Diamond Robbery"—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-25, N. Y. City 27-Jan. 1.
"Girl from Paris"—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25, Evansville, Ind., Jan. 1.
"Girl from Paris"—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Lawrence 27, 28.
"Geisha"—Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 22, Nashville 24, 25.
"Geisha"—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-25.
Hillman's Maude—Stamford, Ct., Dec. 20-25, Derby 27-Jan. 1.
Hanson's, Annie Clark—Mt. Morris, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Le Roy 27-Jan. 1.
Hoyt's Comedy—Arthur, Ill., Dec. 23-25, Tuscola 27-Jan. 1.
Himmelein's Ideals—Reading, Pa., Dec. 27-Jan. 8.
Herrmann, Leon and Adelaine—New Orleans, La., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Holmes & Wolford—Austin, Tex., Dec. 22, Brenham 23-25, Galveston 26-28.
Hoyt's Comedy—Taylorville, Ill., Dec. 22, Arthur 23-25.
Harland's Players—Plainfield, Wis., Dec. 20-25.
Henshaw & Ten Broeck—Westchester, Pa., Dec. 22, Hampton, Va., 23, Newport News 24, Norfolk 25, Richmond 28, 29, Lynchburg 30, Bristol, Tenn., 31, Knoxville Jan. 1.
Hyer's Comedy—Camp Point, Ill., Dec. 25, Augusta 27, Colchester 28, Mt. Pleasant, Ia., 29, 30, Fairfield 31, Washington Jan. 1.
Hart's, W. S.—Peoria, Ill., Dec. 22.
Holden Comedy—St. Joseph, Mo., Dec. 20-25.
Herndon's, Agnes—Altoona, Pa., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Hall's, Jessie Mae—Marion, Ind., Dec. 20-25, Muncie 27-Jan. 1.
"Human Hearts"—Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 25, Memphis, Tenn., 27-29.
"Hogan's Alley" Gilmore & Leonard's—Columbia, Mo., Dec. 22, Mexico 23, Louisiana 24, Alton, Ill., 25, Memphis, Tenn., 30-Jan. 1.
"Heart of Maryland"—Minneapolis, Minn., Dec. 20-25, Chicago, Ill., 27-Jan. 1.
"Heart of Chicago," Northern—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Brooklyn, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.
"Heart of Chicago," Western—Ottumwa, Ia., Dec. 24, Washington 27, What Cheer 28, Oskaloosa 29, Des Moines 30-Jan. 1.
"Heart of the Klondike"—N. Y. City Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"Hearthstone"—Akron, O., Dec. 25, Canton 27.
"Harbor Lights"—Boston, Mass., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"Hired Girl"—Providence, R. I., Dec. 20-25, Philadelphia, Pa., 27-Jan. 1.
"Hands Across the Sea"—Westerly, R. I., Dec. 25, New Bedford, Mass., 27, Attleborough 28, Marlborough 29.
"Humanity"—Washington, D. C., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"Hot Old Time"—Washington, D. C., Dec. 20-25.
"Heart of Chicago," Southern—Galesburg, Ill., Dec. 24, Burlington, Ia., 27, Ft. Madison 28, Keokuk 29, Hannibal, Mo., 30, Jacksonville, Ill., 31, Decatur Jan. 1.
"In Old Kentucky"—Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"In Gay New York"—San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 22, Galveston 23, Houston 24, 25, New Orleans, La., 29-Jan. 1.
"In Town"—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Providence, R. I., 27-29, New Haven, Ct., 31, Jan. 1.
James', Louis—Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 27-29, Pasadena 30, San Diego 31, Jan. 1.
"Jolly Night"—Dallas, Tex., Dec. 22, Fort Worth, 25, Birmingham, Ala., Jan. 1.
"Jay In New York"—Worcester, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Wheeling, W. Va., 30-Jan. 1.
"Jack and the Beanstalk"—Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 22, Rochester 23-25, Philadelphia, Pa., 27-Jan. 1.
"Joshua Simpkins"—Jacksonville, Fla., Dec. 25.
Keene's, Thos. W.—Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 22, Sedalia 23, Springfield 24, 25, Indianapolis, Ind., 27-29, Columbus, O., 30-Jan. 1.
Kellar—Peoria, Ill., Dec. 27.
Kelly's, Dan A.—Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 20-25, Dyersburg 27-29, Jackson 30-Jan. 1.
Kennedy's Players—Amsterdam, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Hoboken, N. J., 27-Jan. 1.
Kelly & Raymond—Carbondale, Pa., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Liliputians—Newark, N. J., Dec. 20-25.
Lewis', Lillian—New Orleans, La., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Lyceum Stock—N. Y. City Dec. 20, indefinite.
Le Royle's, Hennessy—Fall River, Mass., Dec. 31, Jan. 1.
Lackaye, Wilton—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 20-25, Milwaukee, Wis., 27-29, Madison 30, Winona, Minn., 31, Lacrosse Jan. 1.
"Late Mr. Castello"—Anaconda, Mont., Dec. 22, Butte 23-25.
"Lost, Strayed or Stolen"—Bozeman, Mont., Dec. 22, Livingstone 23, Fargo, N. D., 24, 25, St. Paul, Minn., 27-29, Minneapolis 30-Jan. 1.
"Lost in New York"—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-25.
"Little Trixie"—Butler, Pa., Dec. 23, Monongahela 24, Connellsville 25.
"Land of the Living"—Toronto, Can., Dec. 20-25.
"Last Stroke"—Cleveland, O., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Morrison's, Lewis—Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 22, Selma 23, Memphis, 25, Evansville, Ind., 29, Indianapolis, 30-Jan. 1.
Monroe, Geo. W.—Newark, N. J., Dec. 20-25, Brooklyn, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.
Murray & Mack—Monmouth, Ill., Dec. 22, Galesburg 23, Burlington, Ia., 24, Des Moines 25, Davenport 26, Sterling, Ill., 27, Rockford 28, Rochelle 29, Aurora 30, Bloomington 31, Peoria Jan. 1.
Murphy's, Tim—Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 27, Hot Springs 29.
Mantell's, R. B.—Cleveland, O., Dec. 20-25, Pittsburg, Pa., 27-29, East Bend 30.
Mansfield's, Richard—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Boston, Mass., 27-Jan. 1.
McHenry's, Nellie—Denver, Col., Dec. 20-25.
Machan Dramatic—Owen Sound, Can., Dec. 20-25, Wiaston 27-Jan. 1.
Mack's, Andrew—N. Y. City Dec. 20, indefinite.
Miller, Henry—Troy, N. Y., Dec. 25, Pittsburg, Pa., 27-Jan. 1.
Marlowe, Julia—Cincinnati, O., Dec. 20-25, Columbus 27-29, Toledo 30-Jan. 1.
McCarthy's, Dan—Wilkesbarre, Pa., Dec. 22.
Murphy's, Joseph—Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Steubenville, O., 27.
Maxam & Sight's—South Haven, Mich., Dec. 20-25, Pow Pow 27-Jan. 1.
Morrison's, Rosabel—Richmond, Va., Dec. 27.
Modjeska—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 20-25.
Mohawk, Go-Won-Go—Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 20-25, Chicago, Ill., 27-Jan. 1.
Miles' Ideal Stock—No. Adams, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Fitchburg 27-Jan. 1.
Mather, Margaret—Providence, R. I., Dec. 20-25, Bangor, Me., 27, Portland 28, 29, Concord, N. H., 30, Nashua 31, Haverhill, Mass., Jan. 1.
Macaulay-Patton—Tarentum, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Waynesburg 27-Jan. 1.
Madison Square Theatre—Concordia, Kan., Dec. 20-25.
Morgans, Courtenay—Sarnia, Can., Dec. 20-25.
Miller-Sisson Wallace—Dalton, Ga., Dec. 23, Cartersville 24, Atlanta 25.
"My Friend From India"—Worcester, Mass., Dec. 25.
"My Friend From India"—Marion, O., Dec. 22, Bucyrus 23, Massillon 24, Mansfield 25.
"My Friend From India"—Savannah, Ga., Dec. 22, Macon 23, Atlanta 24, 25, Wheeling, W. Va., 29.
"Midnight Flood"—Lebanon, O., Dec. 25, Hillsbora 27, Greenfield 28, Wellston 29, Portsmouth 30, Cumberland, Md., Jan. 1.
"Madeline of Fort Reno"—Albany, N. Y., Dec. 22, Rochester 23-25.
"Man From Mexico"—St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 20-25, Eau Claire, Wis., 27, Winona 28, La Crosse 29, Milwaukee, Wis., 30-Jan. 1.
"McGinty, the Sport"—Kokomo, Ind., Dec. 23, Crawfordsville 24, Lafayette 25, So. Chicago, Ill., 26, Niles, Mich., 27, Battle Creek 28, Lansing 29, Grand Rapids 30-Jan. 1.
"Mme. Sans Gene"—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 20-25, Nashville, Tenn., 29, 30, Memphis 31, Jan. 1.
"McNulty's Visit"—Angola, Ind., Dec. 22, Burr Oak, Mich., 23, Lansing 24, Port Huron 25.
"Milk White Flag"—San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 20-25, Oakland 27, San Jose 28, Fresno 29, Los Angeles 30-Jan. 1.
"McSorley's Twins"—Detroit, Mich., Dec. 20-25.
"Mysterious Mr. Bugle"—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Hartford, Ct., 29, Holyoke, Mass., 30, Albany, N. Y., Jan. 1.
"McFadden's Row of Flats"—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 20-25.
"My Boys"—Bridgeport, Ct., Dec. 25.
"Miss Francis of Yale"—New Orleans, La., Dec. 20-25.
"Miss Philadelphia"—Easton, Pa., Dec. 25, N. Y. City 27-Jan. 1.
"McCarthy's Mishaps"—Washington, D. C., Dec. 20-25.
"Miss Brevity"—Middledown, N. Y., Dec. 27.
"Nancy Hanks"—Louisville, Ky., Dec. 20-25, N. Y. City 27-Jan. 1.
"Never Again"—Hartford, Ct., Dec. 25, N. Y. City 27-Jan. 1.
"Never Again"—Richmond, Va., Dec. 30, Norfolk 31, Wilmington, Del., 31, Trenton, N. J., Jan. 1.
"Northern Lights"—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25, Grand Rapids, Mich., 27-29.
O'Neill's, James—Norfolk, Va., Dec. 23, Richmond 24, 25, Roanoke 27, Bristol, Tenn., 28, Knoxville 29, Chattanooga 30, Atlanta, Ga., 31, Jan. 1.
Ott't, Joseph—Cortland, N. Y., Dec. 22, Albany 23-25, Little Falls 27, Herkimer 28, Rome 29, Syracuse 30-Jan. 1.
Olcott's, Chauncey—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Owen, Wm.—Hancock, Mich., Dec. 22, 23, Calumet 24, 25, Bessemer 27, 28, Ironwood 29, 30, Ashland, Wis., 31, Jan. 10.
Ober, Orris—Watertown, S. D., Dec. 20-25.
"Old Homestead," Thompson's—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
"Out of Sight"—Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 22, Cortland 25, Canastota 27, Rome 28, Canandaigua 29, Corning 30, Olean 31, Bradford, Pa., Jan. 1.
"Old Farmer Hopkins"—Lampassas, Tex., Dec. 22.
"On the Bowery"—Worcester, Mass., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"On the Yukon"—Detroit, Mich., Dec. 20-25, Toledo, O., 27-29, Columbus 30-Jan. 1.
"One Round of Pleasure"—Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Cincinnati, O., 27-Jan. 1.
Payton's, Corse—Troy, N. Y., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Paiges, The—Warrensburg, Mo., Dec. 20-25.
Payton's, Corse, Stock—Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Allentown 27-Jan. 1.
Payton's, Isaac—Manhattan, Kan., Dec. 20-25.
Payton's, Senter—Rock Island, Ill., Dec. 20-25.
Paige's, Edna—Dodge City, Kan., Dec. 20-25, Garden City 27-Jan. 1.
Peters & Green's—Mobile, Ala., Dec. 20-25.
Putnam's, Katie—Boise City, Idaho, Dec. 22, Pocatello 23, Logan, Utah, 24, Ogden 25.
Pearson's Stock—Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 20-25, Springfield 27-Jan. 1.
"Prodigal Father"—Bedford, Ind., Dec. 22, Lafayette 23, Frankford 24, Anderson 25.
"Prisoner of Zenda"—Decatur, Ill., Dec. 22, Peoria 25, Des Moines, Ia., 30, Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 1.
"Patent Applied For"—Haverhill, Mass., Dec. 25, Exeter, N. H., 27, Dover 28, Amesbury, Mass., 29, Ware 30, Springfield 31, Jan. 1.
Ryan, Dan'l R.—Canton, O., Dec. 20-25, Sandusky 27-Jan. 1.
Russell's, Sol Smith—Trenton, N. J., Dec. 23, St. Louis, Mo., 27-Jan. 1.
Rooney's, Katie—Hartford, Ct., Dec. 27, 28, Stamford 29, Middletown, N. Y., 30, Carbondale, Pa., Jan. 1.
Robson's, Stuart—Salt Lake City, U., Dec. 23-25.
Royle's, E. Milton—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Reed's, Roland—Baltimore, Md., Dec. 20-25, Brooklyn, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.
Rice's, Fanny—Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Detroit, Mich., 27-Jan. 1.
"Real Widow Brown"—New Haven, Ct., Dec. 23-25, Trenton, N. J., 29, Elizabeth, Jan. 1.
"Royal Box"—N. Y. City Dec. 21, indefinite.
"Railroad Ticket"—Cincinnati, O., Dec. 20-25, Wilmington, Del., Jan. 1.
Sothern's, E. H.—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Skinner's, Otis—Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 25, Selma 27, Binghamton 28, Atlanta, Ga., 29, 30, Savannah 31-Jan. 1.
Shea's, Thos. E.—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Rochester, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.
Shearer's, Tommy—Shenandoah, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Ashland 27-Jan. 1.
Spencer, E. R.—Terre Haute, Ind., Dec. 22, Danville, Ill., 25, Charleston 28, Taylorsville 31.
Saxon Sisters—Coal City, Ill., Dec. 25, 26, Marseilles 28-29.
Spears' Comedians—Kingston, N.Y., Dec. 20-25, Saratoga 27-Jan. 1.
Sherman, Robert—Litchfield, Ill., Dec. 20-25.
Spooners, The—Wilmington, Del., Dec. 20-25.
Sully's, Dan—Steubenville, O., Dec. 22, Wheeling, W. Va., 23-25.
Sardou's, Emma—Altoona, Pa., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Stutt'z Theatre—Epurian, Utah, Dec. 20-25, Manti 27-Jan. 1.
Sawtelle Dramatic—Meriden, Ct., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Southers-Price—St. Augustine, Fla., Dec. 20-25, Green Cove Springs 27-Jan. 1.
"Secret Service," Gillette's—Cleveland, O., Dec. 20-25.
"Shall We Forgive Her?"—Buffalo, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.
"Span of Life"—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"Straight from the Heart"—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Newark, N. J., 27-Jan. 1.
"Secret Enemy"—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25, Elizabeth, N. J., Jan. 1.
"Shantytown"—Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 20-25, Des Moines, Ia., 28, 29.
"Sowing the Wind"—Springfield, O., Dec. 25, Cleveland 27-Jan. 1.
"Sunshine of Paradise Alley"—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25, Philadelphia, Pa., 27-Jan. 1.
"Side Tracked," Southern—Sheboygan, Wis., Dec. 22, Menoska 23, Stevens Point 25.
"Southern Romance"—Bloomington, Ill., Dec. 22.
"Sign of the Cross"—Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Rochester 27-29.
"Side Tracked," Eastern—Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 20-25.
"Shore Acres," Herne's—Baltimore, Md., Dec. 20-25, Philadelphia, Pa., 27-Jan. 1.
"Shannon of the Sixth"—Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 20-25.
"Side Tracked," Western—Grand Island, Neb., Dec. 22, Hastings 23, Columbus 24, Fremont 25, Marysville, Kan., 27, Joplin, Mo., Jan. 2.
"Stag Party"—Kokomo, Ind., Dec. 29-Jan. 1.
"Stranger in New York"—N. Y. City Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
"Stranger in New York," No. 2—Newburg, N. Y., Dec. 22, Syracuse 24, 25, Cleveland, O., 27-Jan. 1.
"Stranger in New York," No. 3—Charleston, S. C., Dec. 24, Savannah, Ga., 25.
"Swell Miss Fitzwell"—N. Y. City Dec. 20, indefinite.
"Si Plunkard"—Council Bluffs, Ia., Dec. 25.
"Shore Acres," No. 2—Curwinsville, Pa., Dec. 22, Hastings 23, Uniontown 24, Wheeling, W. Va., 25, Clarksburg 27, Athens, O., 28, Charleston, W. Va., 29, Huntington 30, Ironton, O., 31, Parkersburg, W. Va., Jan. 1.
"Sidewalks of New York"—Cincinnati, O., Dec. 20-25.
"Salt of the Earth"—Toledo, O., Dec. 23-25.
"Superba"—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
"Sporting Duchess"—Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 25, St. Louis, Mo., 27-Jan. 1.
Toole's, John E.—Wheeling, W. Va., Dec. 22.
"Tracked by a Newspaper"—Freeland, Pa., Dec. 22, Danville 23, Lock Haven 24, Tyrone 25, Johnstown Jan. 1.
"Trip to Coontown"—Pawtucket, R. I., Dec. 22, Lawrence, Mass., 23-25.
"Tornado," Northern—Lewiston, Me., Dec. 25, Fairfield 27, Waterville 28, Bath 28, Portsmouth, N. H., 30, Lawrence, Mass., 31, Jan. 1.
"Thoroughbred"—Aberdeen, Miss., Dec. 25, Macon 27, West Point 28.
"Town Topics"—Cincinnati, O., Dec. 20-25.
"Twelve Temptations"—Huntington, W. Va., Dec. 22, Brownstown 23, Portsmouth, Va., 24, Lexington 25, Cincinnati, O., 27-Jan. 1.
"Telephone Girl"—Hartford, Ct., Dec. 23, 24, N. Y. City 27 indefinite.
"Two Little Vagrants"—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25, Jersey City, N. J., 27-Jan. 1.
"Under the Polar Star"—Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 22-Jan. 1.
"Under the Red Robe"—Saginaw, Mich., Dec. 25, Detroit 27-Jan. 1.
"Under the Dome," Eastern—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, So. Norwalk, Ct., 27, Bridgeport 28, New Haven 29, 30, Northampton, Mass., Jan. 1.
"Uncle Josh Spruceby"—Hot Springs, Ark., Dec. 27, Arkadelphia 28, Texarkana, Tex., 29, Bonham 30, Paris 31.
"Uncle Tom's Cabin," Davis'—Elgin, Ill., Dec. 25.
"Under the Dome," Western—Duluth, Minn., Dec. 31, West Superior, Wis., Jan. 1.
"Uncle Tom's Cabin," Stetson's—Geneva, N. Y., Dec. 23, Ithaca 24, Penn Yan.
"Uncle Tom's Cabin," Al. W. Martins'—Owego, N. Y., Dec. 23, Susquehanna, Pa., 24, Binghamton, N. Y., 25, Addison 27, Hornellsville 28, Olean 29, Bradford, Pa., 30, Wellsville, N. Y., 31, Jamestown Jan. 1.
"Uncle Tom's Cabin," Riel & Abbey's—Steubenville, O., Dec. 25.
Van Dyke & Eaton—Chillicothe, O., Dec. 20-25, Jackson 27-Jan. 1.
Vinton's, Darrell—Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 20-25.
Van Tassell's, Cora—Norfolk, Va., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Warner Comedy—Abelene, Kan., Dec. 20-25.
Wilson's, Frederick—Watertown, N. Y., Dec. 22, Fulton 25, Cortland 27-Jan. 1.
Whiteside's, Walker—Pine Bluff, Ark., Dec. 22, Helena 23, Memphis, Tenn., 24, 25, Nashville 27, 28.
Waite Comedy, Eastern—Lynn, Mass., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Waite Comedy, Western—Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Wildemann's Comedians—Paris, Tex., Dec. 20-25, Denison 27-Jan. 1.
Webb's Comedians—Wellsburg, W. Va., Dec. 20-25.
Warde, Fred'k—Burlington, Ia., Dec. 25.
Whittier Martine Comedy—Rockland, Me., Dec. 24, 25, Bangor 27-Jan. 1.
Wolford Stock—Fort Worth, Tex., Dec. 22-24.
Ward & Vokes'—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Brooklyn, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.
Wood, N. S.—Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Wade's Comedians—Maryville, Mo., Dec. 24, 25, Bedford, Ia., 27, 28, Clarinda 29-Jan. 1.
Willard's, E. S.—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
"What Happened to Jones"—Washington, D. C., Dec. 20-25, Toledo, O., 27, Indianapolis, Ind., 31, Jan. 1.
"White Slave"—Fall River, Mass., Dec. 25, New Haven, Ct., 27, 28, Elizabeth, N. J., 29, Bridgeport, Ct., 31.
"Wicked City"—Paterson, N. J., Dec. 23, 24.
"Woman in Black"—Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"When London Sleeps"—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25.
"World Against Her," Agnes Wallace-Villa's—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25, Milwaukee, Wis., 27-Jan. 1.
"Ward of France"—N. Y. City Dec. 20, indefinite.
"White Heather"—N. Y. City Dec. 20, indefinite.
"Who is Who"—Providence, R. I., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"Westerner"—Quincy, Ill., Dec. 25, St. Louis, Mo., 27-Jan. 1.
Young's, James—St. Catherine, Can., Dec. 22, 23, Lockport, N. Y., 24, 25.

MUSICAL.

Bostonians—Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 23-25, Burlington, Ia., 29, Peoria, Ill., Jan. 1.
Banda Rossa—Springfield, O., Dec. 24, Evansville, Ind., 28, Indianapolis 30.
"Bride Elect"—New Haven, Ct., Dec. 28-30, Hartford 31, Jan. 1.
Columbian Opera—Coffeyville, Kan., Dec. 22, Topeka 23-25, Joplin, Mo., 27-Jan. 1.
Castle Square Opera—Philadelphia, Pa., indefinite.
Calhoun Opera—Maysville, Cal., Dec. 23, Stockton 24, 25, San Jose 28, 29, Santa Cruz 30, Oakland Jan. 1, 2.
Castle Square Opera—N. Y. City Dec. 25, indefinite.
Daniels, Frank—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Gonzalez Opera—Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 20-25.
Grau Opera—Portland, Ore., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
"Highwayman"—N. Y. City Dec. 20, indefinite.
Hopper's, De Wolf—New Orleans, La., Dec. 20-25, Memphis, Tenn., 27, 28, Nashville, 29, Evansville, Ind., 30, Louisville, Ky., 31, Jan. 1.
"Isle of Champagne"—Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Scalchi, Mme.—Victoria, B. C., Dec. 23, Vancouver 24, 25.
"Shamus O'Brien"—Toronto, Can., Dec. 20-25.
"Wedding Day"—Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 22-25.
"Wang"—Ottawa, Can., Dec. 25, Geneva, N. Y., 30.
"Wizard of the Nile"—Flint, Mich., Dec. 22, Dowagiac 23, Grand Rapids 25, Chicago, Ill., 27-Jan. 1.
Waite Opera—Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Waterbury, Ct., 27-Jan. 1.
Wilbur-Kerwin—Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 20, indefinite.
Wilson's, Francis—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-Jan. 1.

VARIETY.

American Burlesquers—Detroit, Mich., Dec. 20-25, Montreal, Can., 27-Jan. 1.
Ani's Monarchs—Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 20-25, N. Y. City 27-Jan. 7.
Black Patti's Troubadours—St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 20-25.
Broadway Burlesquers—Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 22, Syracuse 23-25.
Big Sensation—N. Y. City Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Black Crook—Paterson, N. J., Dec. 20-25, Newark 27-Jan. 1.
Bon Ton Burlesquers—Albany, N. Y., Dec. 20-25.
Bohemian Burlesquers—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Lynn 30-Jan. 1.
Casino Operatic Burlesquers—Hoboken, N. J., Dec. 22, Reading, Pa., 23-25, Philadelphia 27-Jan. 1.
City Club—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25, Philadelphia, Pa., 27-Jan. 1.
City Sports—Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 23-25, Lynn, Mass., 27-29.
Devere's, Sam—Washington, D. C., Dec. 20-25.
"Darkest America"—Elizabeth, N. J., Dec. 22, Hoboken 23-25, Norfolk, Va., 27.
Fitzsimmon's, Bob—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25.
Fay Foster—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-25.
Gayest Manhattan—Hartford, Ct., Dec. 27, Trenton, N. J., 28, Elizabeth 29.
Gay Masqueraders—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-25.
Hopkins' Trans-Oceanics—Toledo, O., Dec. 20-25, Cincinnati 27-Jan. 1.
Howard's, May—Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 20-25.
Hyde's Comedians—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25.
"In Gay Paris"—Ironwood, Mich., Dec. 22, Ashland, Wis., 23, Grand Forks, N. D., 24, Fargo 25.
Irwin Bros.'—Boston, Mass., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Knickerbockers—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25, Fall River, Mass., 30-Jan. 1.
London Gaity Girls—Easton, Pa., Dec. 23-25.
London Belles—Ottawa, Can., Dec. 20-25, Detroit, Mich., 27-Jan. 1.
Merry Widows—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Paterson, N. J., 27-29.
Merry Maidens—Louisville, Ky., Dec. 20-25, Indianapolis, Ind., 27-Jan. 1.
"Miss New York Jr."—Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Jersey City, N. J., 27-Jan. 1.
Manhattan Club—Albany, N. Y., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Moulin Rouge—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Brooklyn, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.
Night Owls—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Providence, R. I., 27-Jan. 1.
New York Stars and Steve Brodie—Columbus, O., Dec. 23-25, Cleveland 27-Jan. 1.
Novelties—Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
"Oriental America"—*En route* through England.
Octoroons—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25, Louisville, Ky., 27-Jan. 1.
Parisian Widows—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25.
Rentz-Santley, Eastern—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-25.
Russell's, Helen—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25.
Reeves, Al.—Dayton, O., Dec. 23-25, Pittsburg, Pa., 27-Jan. 1.
Rentz-Santley, Western—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25.
Reilly & Wood's—Cincinnati, O., Dec. 20-25, St. Louis, Mo., 27-Jan. 1.
Russell Bros.—Baltimore, Md., Dec. 20-25, Washington, D. C., 27-Jan. 1.
Rose Hill—Boston, Mass., Dec. 20-25, Hartford, Ct., 29, 30.
Rice & Barton's—N. Y. City Dec. 20-Jan. 1.
Rossow Midgets—Troy, N. Y., Dec. 20-25, Newark, N. J., 27-Jan. 1.
Sullivan's, John L.—Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 23, Syracuse 24, 25, Buffalo 27-Jan. 1.
Scribner's Columbian Burlesquers—Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 20-25.
Tenderloin—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 20-25, Easton, Pa., 27-29.
Twentieth Century Maids—St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 20-25.
Tilley, Vesta—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-25.
Vanity Fair—Newark, N. J., Dec. 20-25.
Venetian Burlesquers—Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 20-25, N. Y. City 27-Jan. 1.
Vaudeville Club—Cleveland, O., Dec. 20-25, Chicago, Ill., 27-Jan. 1.
Watson Sisters—Paterson, N. J., Dec. 20-25, Brooklyn, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.
Williams' Own—Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 20-25, Cincinnati, O., 27-Jan. 1.
"White Crook"—Boston, Mass., Dec. 23-25, Troy, N. Y., 27-Jan. 1.

MINSTRELS.

Florida—Williamport, Pa., Dec. 22, Harrisburg 23, Columbia 24, Carlisle 25.
Field & Hanson—Anderson, S. C., Dec. 22, Abbeyville 23, Augusta, Ga., 24, 25, Milledgeville 27, Eatonton 28, Athens 30, Atlanta 31, Jan. 1.
Field's, Al. G., Colored—Paragould, Ark., Dec. 22, Poplar Bluff, Mo., 23, Cape Girardeau 24, Murphysboro, Ill., 25, Belleville 27, Metropolis 28, Paducah, Ky., 29.
Field's, Al. G., White—Dayton, O., Dec. 24, Toledo 29, Canton 31.
Gorton's—Salisbury, Md., Dec. 22, Crissfield 23, Nat. Soldiers' Home, Va., 24, Elizabeth City, N. C., 25, Edenton 27, Newport News, Va., 28, Tarboro, N. C., 29, Rocky Mount 30, Wilson 31, Goldsboro Jan. 1, New Berne 3.
Henry's, Hi—Kennebunk, Me., Dec. 22, Rochester, N. H., 23, Manchester 24, 25, Nashua 27, Athol, Mass., 28, Greenfield 29, No. Adams 30.
Pierson's, Harry—Altoona, Pa., Dec. 23-25.
Primrose & West's, Eastern—Albany, N. Y., Dec. 25.
Primrose & West's, Western—Chicago, Ill., Dec. 27-Jan. 1.
Richards & Pringle's—New Orleans, La., Dec. 20-25, Thebadoux 26, Homana 27, Franklin 28, New Iberia 29, Lake Charles 30, Beaumont, Tex., 31, Houston Jan. 1.
Washburn's—Reading, Pa., Dec. 22, Carlisle 24, Hagerstown, Md., 25, Hanover, Pa., 27, York 28, Lancaster 29, Coalsville 30, Royersford 31, West Chester Jan. 1, Chester 3.

CIRCUSES.

Wallace's—Baton Rouge, La., Dec. 22, New Orleans 23-25, Mobile, Ala., 27.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Adams, Geo. H.—N. Y. City Dec. 20-25.
Canadian Jubilee Singers—East Somerville, Mass., Dec. 22, Charleston 23, South Farmington 24, Ashland 25, 26, Westboro 27, Worcester 28-30, Hubbardson 31, Jan. 1.
Durno—Charlotte, Mich., Dec. 22, Allegan 23, Niles 25.
Edsonia—Northampton, Mass., Dec. 22, Southbridge 23, Barre 24, Amesbury 25.
Fontanas, The—Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 21-25.
Nashville Students—South McAllister, Ind. T., Dec. 24, Muscogee 25.

Nobles'—Madison, Ga., Dec. 20-25.
Perkins, Eli—Galesburg, Ill., Dec. 22, Remington, Ind., 23, Centreville 24, Santa Fe, N. M., 28, Albuquerque 29, Silver City 30, Raton Jan. 1.
Robinson's, Happy Bob—Greenfield, O., Dec. 20-25.
Sages, The—Newport, R. I., Dec. 20-25.

INDIANA.

Indianapolis.—At English's Opera House Denman Thompson, supported by a capable company, gave "The Old Homestead" Dec. 15, 16, to good business. The audiences seemed to enjoy the play, and were very liberal with their applause. Wilton Lackaye, in "The Royal Secret," 17, 18, deserved much better patronage than it received. Those who did attend were well pleased with the production. "The Sporting Duchess" comes for two performances 25, Thos. Keene 27-29, Banda Rossa 30, "What Happened to Jones" 31, Jan. 1.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Digby Bell, in "The Hoosier Doctor," comes 25. Lewis Morrison, in "Frederick the Great" and "The Master of Ceremonies," 30–Jan. 1.

PARK THEATRE.—"A Boy Wanted," 13-15, was well stocked with good comedians and specialty people, and the attendance was big. Weber's Parisian Widows, 16-18, opened the performance with an olio of clever specialty people and gave a good burlesque. "McGinty the Sport" comes 20-22, "Fallen Among Thieves" 23-25.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Sam T. Jack's "Orange Blossoms," 13-18, has had a very good week's business. A female minstrel first part is given, with a short olio, and the performance closes with a long burlesque, "The Model." May Howard holds the boards 20-25, The Merry Maidens 27–Jan. 1.

THE PASSING SHOW.—Mlle. Karina and Mlle. Fatima, of Sam T. Jack's "Orange Blossoms" Co., were not popular, and were returned to Chicago...... Hays and Esterbrook, musical team, who have been out with Beach & Bowers' Minstrels, have closed with that company and are laying off for a short time here. They will go East shortly and play dates........The May Howard Co. has some of the finest paper seen here for some time......Special wires were run into the Park and Empire Theatre 17, and the returns from the McCoy-Creedon fight were read from the stage......John H. Harrison, who has been acting as press agent for English's Opera House this season, has purchased an interest in *The Evening Commercial*, of Danville, Ill. He took charge of the paper 14. Mr. Harrison was identified with several newspapers in Chicago and Indianapolis before taking the theatrical agency, and was press agent for the Wallace Circus for two seasons. His successor has not been decided on yet......Elmer Tinley, stage manager and comedian of Weber's Parisian Widows Co., had his mother and daughter visit him at Dayton, O., 15......Andrew R. Forsythe and Edna Macbeth joined Maxam & Creed's Comedians at Elk Rapids, Mich., 15...... Ada Lamont joined "The Stag Party" Co. at South Bend, Ind., 17......Grace Gilmore joined Sam T. Jack's "Orange Blossoms" Co. here 17......Mr. Lazarus, ahead of "Fallen Among Thieves," arrived 16.

Evansville.—At the Grand, on Dec. 10, "Courted Into Court" was presented to a poor audience, on account of bad weather. The company gives a bright and breezy performance. Wilton Lackaye, in "The Royal Secret," on 13 also played to a small crowd. Lackaye is one of Evansville's favorites, but heavy showers was the cause of such a poor house. Coming to the Grand on Christmas is Minnie Maddern Fiske; Banda Rossa 28, Lewis Morrison, in "Faust," on 29; De Wolf Hopper 30, and "The Girl from Paris" on Jan. 1.

PEOPLE'S THEATRE.—"Sidewalks of New York" showed before a large audience. A number of excellent specialties are introduced throughout the performance. Booked for People's: Gus Hill's World of Novelties on 19, Cazeneuve, in "Three Guardsmen," on 25, matinee and night also 26; Al. G. Field's Colored Minstrels on Jan. 2.

Frankfort.—At the Columbia Blaney's "A Boy Wanted" came Dec. 15. It was the No. 2 Company, and the show as a whole was a disappointment to the large audience present. The S. R. O. sign was out early in the evening. Business at this house was never better for December, and the S. R. O. sign is not an uncommon thing. Some meritorious attractions are booked for the near future, and the management is expecting fine business to follow. "The Prodigal Father" is booked for Christmas Eve.

CANADA.

Ottawa.—At the Russell Theatre, Dec. 16, Primrose & West's Minstrels (Western) filled the house and gave an excellent performance. Cissy Fitzgerald did well 17, 18. "Wang" comes 25.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—De Wolf's "Uncle Tom's Cabin came to good business 9-11. Anthony Hope lectured 16, to a small audience. Zera Semon comes 29–Jan. 1.

GRANT'S MUSIC HALL has changed hands. Grant Bros., the owners, have leased the house to Lee E. King, who will manage it, beginning Dec. 20, opening with the Rose Sydell Burlesquers. Chas. Haystead, who resigned the management, had a benefit at the Opera House 17, which was fairly well attended. The performers who took part were the principal members of the Gonzalez Opera Co.

Toronto.—At the Grand, Dec. 13-18, "Jack and the Beanstalk" had good business. "Shamus O'Brien" comes week of 20.

TORONTO.—"The Real Widow Brown" had fair business 13-18. Week of 20, "The Land of the Living."

PRINCESS.—The Cummings Stock Co., in "The Charity Ball," turned their patrons from the doors 14-18. The stage settings were superb and the acting excellent.

BIJOU.—Good business with the motograph, the Robbins, Davenport Sisters, Frank Shea, Rose Winchester, and Stuart and Gilien.

MASSEY MUSIC HALL.—Banda Rossa has every promise of success 16-18.

Quebec.—At Tara Hall Frost & Fanshawe's Co., in repertory, did good business week ending Dec. 18.

THE CASINO.—The following people delighted large audiences: Annabelle, Bonnie Goodwin, Muller, Harmant, Louis Virande, Nada Rayval, Adelaide Roattino, McLoud and Melville, and Gruet, Beers and Gruet.

THE GAIETY.—Chas. Palmer's Opera Company, in "La Mascotte" and "The Chimes of Normandy," played to great business and audiences well pleased.

Winnipeg.—At the Winnipeg Theatre Olivette played on 9, 10 and 11, to poor business. Jane Coombs played "Bleak House" 14, and "The Hunchback" 15, to poor business both nights. "The Woman in Black" will hold the boards Dec. 17, 18. Previous attraction, "Sowing the Wind."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Maro, magician, closed a very successful engagement 11. Business picked up towards the end of the week. Dark next week.

Hamilton.—At the Grand the Wilbur Opera Co. closed a successful week's business Dec. 18. James Young, in "David Garrick" and "Hamlet," comes 20, 21; the Buffalo Music Hall Stock Co., in "The Grey Mare," 22; the Cumming Stock Co. 27 and week.

STAR THEATRE.—For 20 and week: Leopold and McDonald, Ricci and Chandler, Chas. and Helen Howes, Frank J. Shea and Dot Stanley.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Wheeling.—The approaching holidays did not lessen the business at the local theatres to any great extent last week. The Opera House had but one attraction, "For Fair Virginia," Dec. 15, to good business. Nothing will be seen at this house until Christmas, when "Shore Acres" comes for a matinee and night performance. Booked: "My Friend from India" 29, "The Nancy Hanks" Jan. 1.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Katie Emmett, in "The Waifs of New York," drew good business 13-15, followed by Reilly & Wood's Co., 16-18, to very large patronage. Coming: J. E. Toole 20-22, Dan Sully 23-25, the projectoscope 27-29. "A Jay in New York" 30–Jan 1, "McCarthy's Mishaps" 3-5, Oliver Byron 6-8, Agnes Herndon 10-15.

NOTES.—For six successive seasons the Reilly & Wood Co. has put in the week before Christmas in Wheeling, and the theatre goers have become so used to it that they would no doubt forget to do their present buying if they did not see Pat Reilly's lithographs in the windows. The company laid off the first three nights as usual. Mr. Reilly has numerous friends here who never fail to make his stay a most pleasant one.......Work on the new Belle Isle Park will be commenced the first week in the new year.

— Helen Weatherby and W. J. Hurley go with Edward Harrigan, commencing Jan. 1.

Clipper Post Office.

☞ A STAMPED ENVELOPE, plainly addressed, must be inclosed for each letter, and the line of business followed by the person addressed should be given, in order to prevent mistakes.

NOTE.—Professionals and others should bear in mind that all letters, etc., in transit between the United States and Canada, *must be prepaid*, otherwise they are not forwarded.

LADIES' LIST.

Allen, Blanche
Allen, Rosa
Allen, Aggie
Ashmore, Daisy
Adams, Lizzie
Atwood, Marion
Anderson, Helen
Anson, Ada
Allen, Esther
Adams, Lizzie
Ahlquist, N.
Bond, Louise
Burt, Ida
Bloodgood, Fannie
Biggar, Laura
Burnette, Edna C.
Bane, Lizzie 6c.
Budworth, Nellie
Beja, —
Brittan, Evelyn
Buskirk, Sadie
Belle, Minnie
Bernard, Cassie
Bennett, Maggie
Barney, Fayette
Belmont, Mrs.
Beck, Miss L.
Barrett, Mamie
Bailey, Alma
Bushnell, Ida
Boulett, Mrs. F. D.
Barnard, Elisa
Bonehill, Bessie
Bartram, Birdie
Beane, Ray
Brooks, Daisy
Barrett, Mamie
Barker, Fanny
Bradburn, Pearl
Boyd, Bell
Bernard, Bertha
Bernard, Florence
Blair, Sidney
Barnard, Elisa
Balsamo, —
Baisely, Marion
Burt, Ida M.
Barnard, Elisa
Cereto, Mrs.
Carlton, Sara
Carew, Jenet
Colwell, Kittie
Cope, Mattie
Carmen, Bea
Carsen, Jennie
Clifton, Ada
Carroll, Addie
Clerise, Mrs
Countess, Kitty
Coleman, Julia
Countess, Bessie
Connors, Mabel
Carew, Mabel
Cordelia, Mme.
Clements, Kitty
Castel, Karina
Celeste, Grace
Cameron, Carrie
Charcot, Agnes
Comer, Imogene
De Castro, Emma
Dean, Daisy
Deane, Laura
De Greau, Mrs. H
Darling, Pearl
De Marco, Gladys
Diamond, Grace
Dawson, Mae
Dempsey, Louise
De Swan, Goldie
Doane, Lenora
Douglas, Clara
Diana, —
Davis, Maud
Detty, Maud
Douglas, Barbara
Desmond, Minnie
Evelynne, Pearl
Edwina, —
Emmett, Katie
Elliott, Jeanette
Emmett, Frankie
Eames, Belle
Fernandez, Dolores
Fox, Blanch T.
Fanchetto Sisters
Foster, Lee
Fremont, Lottie
Florence, Minnie
Fox, Madge
Foster, May
Fontelle, Ella J.
Farrington, Nevada
Forreste, Marcelle
Groft, Laura L.
Gable, Maggie
Goodwin, Mrs. J. F.
Gilmore, Anna
Gardner, Kittie
Graves, Lillie
Goodwin, Madeline
Griffith, Mrs. H. S.
Gilmore, Bessie M.
Gardner, Lida
Grovini, Jennie
Girard, Mrs. Gilbert
Gorman, Lottie W.
Hughes, Flossie
Heath, Marie
Hemming, Edith
Hunter, Hattie E.
Holliday & De Veux
Howard, Alice V.
Hull, Miss C. A.
Howard, Emily
Howard, Mrs. G. B.
Hastings, May
Hasson, Cecil
Harris, Mamie
Harcourt, Marie
Houdini, Mrs. B.
Highland, Mildred
Herndon, Agnes
Hammond, Louise
Hill, Clarence
Howard, Nellie B.
Hearde, Mabel
Hayden, Ola
Hyers, May C.
Humiston, Lulu
Howard, Alice V.
Hurd, Isabelle
Hawkes, Carrie
Hayes, Lizzie
Irwin, Lillie
Ingraham, Rose
Irving, Montgomery
Irwin, Mamie
Ingraham, Rose L.
Irwin, Dora
Jaynes, Clara
Jerome, Lillian
Knox, May
Keifer, Ida
Kennedy, Arlett
Kennedy, May
King, Madge
Kennedy, Florence
Kramer, Jennie
Kilkeary, Mrs. L.
Leslie, Cora
Lewis, Birdie
Lazell, Mollie
Lynton, Ethel 3c.
Lane, Rose
Le Roy, Lillie
La Blancne, Flossie
Lindon, Edna E.
Love & Lamont
Lancaster, Lillian
La Boe, Phonie
La Tour, Marie
Langdon, Florence
Lester, Louie
Marquem, Pearl
Miranda —
McDough, Zela
McIntyre, Fanny
Marco, Camille
McIntyre, Pearl
McCoy, Nellie
Marshall, Mary
Mitchell, Kittie
Marlowe, Bessie
Moore, Mrs. J. C.
Marion, Pearl
Meerson, Bebe
Madison, Ada L.
Meredith, Peerl
Mitchell Sisters
Miller, Florence
Meerson, Bab
Meredith, Letta
McKinley, Pauline
Millar Sisters
Milton, Mrs. M. E.
Muller, Kittie
Moore, Mrs. J. C.
Mack, Hazel
Mason, Ethel
Morris, Lucy
Miles, Belle
Main, Gladys D.
Mosely, Florie
Norton, Florence S.
Nelson, Ruth
Newcomb, Theresa
Nichols, Lulu
Otis, Julia
O'Dell, May
Omme, Miss O. 14c.
Pierson, Edith
Pino, Della
Potter, Ella
Parker, Nettie
Proctor, Lotta
Primrose, Frankie
Paige, Mabel
Princeton Sisters
Patten, Violet
Price, Lillian D.
Pantzer, Mrs. Carl
Riel, Bebe
Ryerson, Ollie
Russell, Grace M.
Raycleta, Lillian
Robertson, Ella B.
Reynolds, Hazel
Radcliffe, Lylene
Reilly, Mrs. Pat
Remington, Mamie
Reed, Jennie
Rumsey, Charlotte
Redell, Marion E.
Rupp, May
Rosaire, Mrs. P. C.
Reynolds, Nonie
Ravenscroft, Mrs. Horace
Rieger, Daisy
Raymond, Ruby
Routt, Cora
Rooker, Tot
Roland, Evelyn
Ruggles, Minnie
Rollas, Isabelle
Revere, Lillie
Reynolds, Hazel
Stewart, Lizzie
Stewart, Belle
Stanley, Flo
Stanley, Dot
Showers, Mrs. M. B.
Sol, Donnie
Sheppard, Mamie
Scott, Carrie
Stowe, Minnie
Sutton, Lillian
Sweet, Mrs. C. R.
Stanton, Josephine
Shaw, Lizzie
Stetson, Ada R.
Schriefer, Henrietta
Stevens, Bozie
Stone, Lydia
Stuart, Marie
Sturkow, Elsie
St. Vrain, Ella
Stanley, Mabel
Swainston, Boyd
Shields, Mrs. J. H.
Tiernan, Ida
Tuesart, Helen
Thornton, Ruby
Titus, Lydia Y.
Taylor, Julia
Talbot, Edith
Timme, Minnie
Titenia, —
Turner, Grace
Vanessa, Gladys
Verrault, Inez
Vyner, Idylla
Villa, Agnes W.
Webb, Mattie
Walters, Nellie
Wade, Edith
Whitman, Mrs. G. H.
Welch, Mrs. Chas.
Wood, Julia
Williams, Daisy
Wall, Della
Wainright, Mamie
Worthington, Eleanor
Woodford, Maud
Walsh, Marion
Whitfield, Daisy
Winchester, Rose
Winters, Pauline H.
Ward, Virginia B.
Wade, Daisy
Yale, Anna

GENTLEMEN'S LIST.

Adkinson, M. S.
Ascough, C.
Andrews, Harry O.
Anderson, A. J.
Alicoate, J. P.
Ali, M. S.
Allen, Lieut. W.
Atlas, —
Alexander, —
Americus Comedy Four
Andrews, O. L.
Anderson, P. F.
Aymar, Fred
Albene, Prince
Arms, Chas. E.
Allen, Joe M.
Ahl, Ed.
Adams, Ben
Alexander, Woodruff
Adams, Abbott
Ashley, Harry
Alden, Dick
Allmon, Dan
Aden, Dick
Armstrong Bros.
Anderson, Walter
Barton, Joseph
Berol, Wm
Brown, Richard
Brewer, Hilliard
Blitz, F. R.
Balsiger, Gus
Benn, Ed. L.
Bruns, B. J.
Bradden, H. J.
Boyle, A. L.
Browning, F. V.
Balfour, Aug.
Bowers, Ed.
Boyd, J. H.
Bowman, B. L.
Bernard, Harry
Bryant, F. J.
Burgess, Nat
Buflon, Geo.
Barth, Fred
Bennett, Mark
Brummells, Three
Buell, Willie A.
Boyer, L. M.
Barnett, Sam D.
Bostwick, W.
Burr, O. V.
Baker, John T.
Bruns & Nina
Booth, Barton
Barrael, Fred E.
Bryant, W. T.
Banker, Ed.
Brownlee, F. H.
Bries, —
Battenberg, W. M.
Bonheur Bros.
Burnett, Prof. C. L.
Beckwith, Wm.
Begley, Ed. A.
Belmont, Harry
Bryant, Francis J.
Bennetto, Ed.
Barnes & Sisson
Bell, Jim
Buckley, Page
Bruet & Riviere
Bohannan, M.
Bush, Frank
Baggessens, The
Boyd, Harry
Brennan, E.
Boyton, Capt. Paul
Biondell, — (fire king)
Bryant, Sam S.
Bland, Leroy
Brookes, Corney
Beattie, Jas
Billings, Gay
Blake, Harry
Bentham & Byrne
Blackman, Albert
Barlow, Harry M.
Brennan, John E.
Barry, Dick
Boyd, Harry
Bentley & Cameron
Babb, Maurice
Bratton, Paul
Blitz, F. R.
Carmanelli & Lucille
Clark, Duncan
Collossa, J.
Conroy & Loring
Colton, —
Constance & West
Carlysle, Jackson
Castle, Burt
Crowley, Harry
Collins, Dan
Castellat & Hall
Clark, Geo.
Cooke, Maurice K.
Cooper, Col. H.
Constantine, Harry
Chapman, Richard
Conly, W. P.
Curtis, Bufe
Connolly, W. J.
Crink, Chas.
Crossley, W. F.
Cullins, L. F.
Cooney, Thos. J.
Coughlin, T. C.
Collins, Phil
Conturier, E. A.
Carr & Tourjee
Campbell & McConnell
Cunningham, J. P.
Carroll, Thos. W.
Coughlan, T. C.
Clifford, Billy
Clark, Arthur W.
Colo, Charley
Crane, John
Cline, A. B.
Charles, Carl
Clarke, J. E.
Chapman, H. F.
Campbell, Walter
Crane, John R.
Carlton, Prof. Carl
Carlons, The
Core, Jack
Cottrell, Harry
Creciat, E.
John, Wilhelm
Clifford, P. H.
Chase, Frank T.
Carroll, Frank
Che Mah, —
Cody, Thos. F.
Campbell, Augustus
Clark, J. P.
David, Frank
De Vere, Sam
Decker & Rasch
De Vere, H. G.
Delmanning Bros.
De Veaux, Chas.
De Rue, Billy
Dougherty, —
Dixson, Jim
Dubec, —
Dashiell, Willard
Ducro, Dan
Davenant, R. S.
Davis, Bert
Davis, D. F.
Davidson, Taylor
Dee, Matt
Devaro, Carl
Dime, Billy
Donovan, Geo. F.
Devere, Bill
Dittmar Bros.
De Puans, The
Dolan, Jas. F.
Deming, Joe
Dicey, Ed.
Dorlington, Jas.
D'Alma, Prof.
Doutrick, C. H.
Delger, Fred
Dukeland, G. W.
Davis, Ivan
Decker, Harry
Deltorelli & Clemenso
Durkin, Jas.
Drake, Chas.
Devine, Harry
Deagon, Ed. H.
Dolan, Hugh
Dumont, Frank
Deaves, Harry
Davis, Chas.
De Coursey, Edwin
Dumas, Felix
Dicker, J. E.
Dunbar & Harris
D'Arcy, Al.
Donazette, Lewis
Dukes, J. P.
De Varlo, W.
Devlin, J. F.
Deveaux & Deveaux
Eckert & Berg
Elting, Harry
Ellsworth, Chas.
Ely, Edgar
Elroy, Edwin
Edwards, Joe F.
Enoch, Prof.
Evans, J.
Eldridge, Press
Edwards, Sloan
Ellwood, Great
Edson, Harry
Ferris, Wiley
Fricker, F. H.
Fisher, Geo.
Frazier, W. C.
Fantas, The Two
Fukushima, —
Ferguson, J. M.
Fukino, R.
Forstner, Geo. J.
Frew, Chas.
Fones, Harry
Finley, T. S.
Franklyn, Wm.
Fields, Geo. H.
Franck, Donald
Ford, John
Frost, W. E.
Frelinger, G. A.
Friedrich, Gustav
Fennessy, Bill
Fox, Eddie
Fenton, H. W.
Fahey, F. E.
Fisher, P. D.
Fantas, Jim
Farron, T. J.
Fettel, Jake
Favor, E. M.
Flynn, John A.
Flynn, J. A.
Fettel, J. A.
Flynn, Jos.
Foster, Wm.
Flack, W. E.
Guthrie, C. W.
Green, Jas. F.
Goggins & Davis
Gillingwater, J. W.
Ganellean, Maurice
Gibney, Wm.
Grover, Leonard
Greve, Harry
Gordon & Scanlon
Gallaude, Prof.
Gardner, Chas. A.
Gallagher, W. A.
Greene, J. Ed.
Gallagher, Matt
Goodman, H. J.
Golden & May
Goodwin, John
Greene, C. M.
Garvie, E. J.
Gaffney, J. J.
Gilfillan, Ros
Grady & Powers
Gluck, Chas.
Gracie & Reynolds
Griffin, Gerald
Genner Jr., Geo.
Gibbons, J. F.
Granger, Dr. F. L.
George, J. Ed.
Gleason, Lew
Grimshaw, W. E.
Grovanni, Prof. C. A.
Grapevine, C. E.
Goerss, F. C. A.
Goldsmith, Wallace M.
Graham, Chas.
Grady & Powers
Gordon, Philip
Georgia Colored Minstrels
Gray, Barry
Hallen, Fred
Hethart, W.
Hayden, R. C.
Harron, R. E.
Hampton, Pete E.
Harrington, W. L.
Hall, F. H. M.
Hanvey, L. A.
Haverly, J. H.
Hart Bros.
Hart, Prof. Harry
Howard, Harry E.
Hart, Billy
Hall, Willis
Harty, John R.
Harris & Nelson
Harrison & Wooley
Heinzmann, Otto M.
Holmes, Jack
Hibbard, G. W.
Huddleston, Frank
Hoyter, W. N.
Hazell, Dr. R. E.
Hodge, R. H.
Hart, J. W.
Hugo, Prof.
Herne, Joe H.
Hickey, John M.
Hotaling, A. D.
Henderson, W. H.
Harms, Frank
Hall, Ollie C.
Hall, F.
Hughes, E. C.
Harper, J. G.
Howard, Prof. Harry
Howard, Harry E.
Hart, Billy
Haverly, Burt
Hatch, Alonzo
Higgins & Leslie
Hellmann, Prof.
Heyl & Dunn
Hubin, F. B.
Hoover & Forrest
Harrison, Hugh
Handy, Happy
Howe, Sam
Hiles, W.
Hatch, J. F.
Hyde, J. M.
Heron, Joe G.
Henderson, Josh
Hughes, Parker
Hasson, Chas.
Hanley, M. E.
Harrington, J. C.
Hodgemann, T.
Howard & Burdock
Heinzmann, Otto
Hickey, W. H.
Hanvey, L. A.
Hardie & Von Leer
Hallen, Fred
Hadley & Hart
Henshaw & Ten Brook 6c
Harrison, J. D.
Hearthstone Co.
Hart, Billie (H. & D.)
Hicks, Geo.
Hayes, Geo. T.
Irwin, Wm.
Inness, Chas.
Irons, W. E.
Irwin, Billy
Ince, J. E.
Johnson, Riano & Bentley
Johnson, Prof. Otto
Jarrett, Harry
Judge, W. J.
Judge & Walton
Judge, Todd
Jossey, W. J.
Judge, Wally
Julian, Martin
Jeavous, Tom J.
Johnson, R. A.
Johnson, Fred W.
Karno Trio
Kerr, Ed. A.
Kendall, Ezra
Knight, Chas. S.
Kelly, W. J.
Karlyle, Jackson
Kennerd, Harvey
Keating, Leonide
Kolbeck, Adolph
Karl, Richard
Keffer, W. P.
Kelley, Ed.
Koyle, E. R.
Klostermann, Wm.
Kibble, Wm.
Koppe, —
Karl & Malcolm
Kemp, Geo. H. 12c.
Krause, O. H.
Kessnich, J. C.
Kelley, Tom P.
Kemp, Geo. H.
Landor, Frank
Lewis, J. C.
Lawton, Dick
Leland, J.
Lee, E. L.
Lozelle, Roger
Leo, T. J.
Lapearl, J. H.
LaBord & Ryerson
Lane, Wm.
Leon, Edward
La Fleur, Jos.
Lobdell, Julian H.
Lotti, Wm.
Luck, C.
Latell, Ed.
Leo, Tom
La Mar, Frank
Lovett & Le Beuf
Luke, Bert
Livingstone, J. E.
Loss, Tony F.
Lawrence, Willie
La Moyn, F. M.
Lambert, Richard
Lanier, Lewis
Lennon, Tom
Luken Bros.
Lord, J. J.
Lang, Edwin R.
Lyman, Frank
Lindsay, Dr. Geo.
Lawrence, E. S.
Lee, Victor
La Rose, Geo.
Lang, Ed
Latona, Frank
Lipman, A. S.
Le Clair, John
Leach, Robt.
Lelliott, Arthur
Lalor, Frank T.
"Little Jack Horner" Co.
Leslie & Curdy
La Marr, Harry
Leopold, Harry
Lowery, P. G.
Laurens, J. D.
Lowery, Geo. B.
Le Roy & Mitchell
Lottie, Wm.
Lacourt, Arthur
Lemon Bros.
Lewis, Richard
Little, J. Z.
Lafayette, A. D.
Lavender & Tomson
Little Bear, Chief
La Marr, Harry
Millard & Alexander
Montrose, Albert
Meyer, Chris
McBride, John S.
Mann, Danny
McGilliard, Forest
Mack, W. C.
Maddox, Al.
Marquette, Chas.
MacKay, Edward
McNavin, Jas.
Mandola, L. S.
Mack, Dick
Mordaunt, Frank
Manford, Felix
Meyers, E. A.
Mack, Chas. J.
Mack, Wilbur
Mack, Tom
Metz, Theo
Mueller, Prof. C. A.
Murray, M. M.
McClure, Dan
Maddox & Beach
Musselman, A.
Murphy, Peter C.
McCann, Geo. E.
Milton, Chas. W.
Mahara, Jack
McIntyre, T. B.
McCann, Chas.
Mason, E. A.
Marion, H. S.
Miaco, Al
Mackie, Will
Magnus, Julian
McCoy, Homer
Metius, Ed.
Mortimer & Darrell
Maskew, Carl
Mahar, Phil
Martz, Al.
Maginleys, The
McHugh, E. A.
Murray, W. B.
Morello, Bill
Murphy, R. P.
McDonald Bros.
McGowen, W.
McCleary, E.
McAlpin, Jas. T.
Morley, H. V.
Mittenthal, Aubrey
Monday, Little
Mathews, Jas. C.
Magee, Jack E.
Milford, John H.
McDonald, Harry
Matsumoto, S.
Mitchell, Mason
Mello, Geo. E.
McDonald, W. J.
McKewen, M. I.
Mack, Chas.
Mackie, J. B.
Martin, Ernest J.
McPhall, Barry
Mazziotta, —
Mss, —
Mitchell, Wm.
Martin, J. B.
McKenzie, Jas.
Markham, Fred W.
Morton, Harry
Murphy Jr., Geo. P.
Meyers, Ed. A.
Marshall, Joe
Nelson, Walter J.
Newan, Jake
Norris, S. W.
Newton, Clint.
Nutt, Ed. C.
Norris, Perry
O'Day, Billy
Olney, Geo. R.
Odells, The
O'Brien & Collins
O'Donnell, T. J.
Osborne, N. H.
Olifan, Petrie
Oliver & Wood
Overton, Harry
Ornson, J. P.
Orton, Claud
Orton, Albert
Petrie, H. W.
Peterson, C.
Phillips, Capt. J. C.
Pantzer, Trio
Polk & Kollins
Pettit, Will
Parson, A. E.
Perine, E. I.
Petching, Emil
Pickard, Fred
Pomeroy, John
Potts, F. L.
Powers, John T.
Preston, John A.
Post, Ralph M.
Pickert & Whippler
Patterson, Al.
Powers, Frank S.
Page, W. E.
Perry, Frank L.
Pyne, Dick
Primrose, C. S.
Paige, Will
Pawnee, Bill
Patterson, Edward
Payton, Corse
Pierce, Frank I.
Porter, John H.
Pelham, Claude
Parvos, The
Paulo & Dika
Powell, Clarence 6c.
Parker, Prof. H. M.
Patton, A. F.
Pray, R. G.
Parks, J. A.
Powers, Frank S.
Pleon, Harry
Paulscraft, P. A.
Rowe, Geo. N.
Ralston, Bob
Robinson, Ed.
Richards, Geo. W.
Riggs & Cowley
Roslind, Fred
Reno & Curtis
Roscos, The
Roberts, John V.
Randall, Wm.
Robinson, Geo.
Richards, Jos.
Robinson, E. H.
Roberts, C. W.
Rench & Kennedy
Rigby, Arthur
Randall, Mr. & Mrs.
Robinson, Harry
Rosenthal, H. W.
Riley, Chas. S.
Richards, Freddie
Ryan, Jas. & Maud
Russell, Wm.
Reed, Logan
Renald, Fred
Ritchie, Geo.
Rose, Phil E.
Rozell, W. G.
Raven, E.
Reilly, Pat
Robbins, Fred
Rogers, Harry
Rogers, A. G.
Redell, Marion
Roach, O. W.
Roscoe, J. W.
Romer & Collette
Rydon, Billy
Robbins, Clint.
Rusco & Holland
Sefton, Harry
Smith, T. V.
Scribner, Sam A.
Salmo, Juno
Stoute, Geo. L.
Stuckhart, W. D.
Stearns, Howard
Shaw, Pete
Sinclair, Leroy E.
Southard, W. A.
Smith, Chas. E.
Sterrett, Lee
Shunk, H. C.
Storm, H. W.
Simonds, Teddy
Saunders, F. M.
Sharpley, A. J. 6c.
Spooner, B. S.
Selby, Art
St. Auburn, W.
Stewart & Gillen
Smith, Otto
Stewars, John
St. George, John
Stetson "U. T." Co.
Steele, Harry
Sutcliffe Bros.
Seabrook, Thos.
Strief, Harry
Smith, E. D.
Seeley, Chas.
Seymour, Dave
Staats, Philip
Starr, Chas. W.
Stuart, Jas. H.
Steers, Karl B.
Stone, Sol
Stanton, P. J.
Souroutts, Richard
S. S. I. Joe
Stone, Ben W.
Sparks, J. H.
Steele, Harry
Sheppard, Jack
Speedy, K. P.
Seward, Fred
Slater, J. H.
Sternard, W. C.
Sorrell, Herman
Smith, Matt
"Sunny South" Co.
Simes, Ambrose
Silvers & Lewis
Scafar, Alex
Sharpley Lyceum Co
Seibert, C. S.
Spaeth, W. F.
Sanchez, Foster
Stanley, Frank
Stoessel, E.
Sawtelle, J. A.
Schroeder, W. F.
Seymour, Henry
Smart & Williams
Seiles, Chas.
Tuchmann, Maurice
Touhey, Patrick J.
Thomas & Barry
Thornton, Jas.
Taggart, Oscar
Thatcher, Geo.
Tuttle, A. F.
Thompson, Robt.
Townsend, Chas.
Tanguay, J. A.
Tansy, E. J.
Tyler, H. C.
Tegge & Daniel
Tanner's Comedians
Thorne, Mark S.
Terry & Elmer
Texas Harry
Villa, S. B.
Varley, A. H.
Vondale, Jimmie
Valentine, Richard
Vance, Carl
Vernon, B. B.
Vaught, A. J.
Van Jules
Vincent, Walter
Vincent, Jas.
Vernon, D. S.
Ward, C. F.
Welch, Dick
White, Dan
Whitlark, W.
Willard, Chas.
Wilson, Arthur
Walton & Doyle
White, Thos.
Wenzel, Fred
Willard, Clyde
Wolcott, Chas.
White, C. F.
Woodward Jr., Geo. E.
Worth, Louis
Watson, Wm.
Wade, E. B.
White, E. B. & Rolla
Woodard, H. G.
Wall, J. M.
Welch, Geo. T.
Wakefield, A. L.
Whitney, S. T.
Woodford, M. E.
Weagel, Fred
Whale Oil Gus
Wrighter, Gordon
Watson, C. F.
Waters, Lew
Wood, Bert
Weston, Burt E.
Wooledge, W.
Wilson, Knox
Waldron, Joe
Weston, Geo.
Webb, Prof. W. W.
Welsh, Jas.
West, J. W.
Wall, Geo. P.
Wilson, Jas.
Wylie & Gorman
Woodley, W. A.
West, A. H.
Whiley, Herbert
Weeks, Harry
Wright, J. Hooker
Young, C. L.
Yanna, Prince
Zarro, Prof. J. W.
Zera, Frank
Zimmerman, W. B.

NEW JERSEY.

Newark.—A charming Christmas attraction will be given the patrons of the Newark Theatre this week by the Liliputians, in "A Trip to Midget town." It is their first appearance in Newark, and they received a gracious welcome Monday night, Dec. 20, and will probably play to increased business through the week. An extra matinee will be given Wednesday, 22. Chauncey Olcott renewed former successes last week, receiving hearty appreciation from large houses. With the engagement of Julia Arthur, in "A Lady of Quality," the patrons of this house will enjoy a succession of sterling attractions, beginning New Year's week.

JACOBS'.—Geo. W. Monroe, in "A Happy Little Home," will dispense fun in his own style this week, and, as an added attraction, Teddy Hale and Joe Rice, the famous long distance bicyclists, will give exhibitions of their riding. A good house witnessed the performance Monday night, 20, considering the storm. "When London Sleeps" ended a week of fair business 18. The week of 27 will bring "Straight from the Heart."

WALDMANN'S.—The "Vanity Fair" Co. will present several novelties to the habitues of this house the present week. They crowded the house Monday night, 20, and are likely to continue the same through the week. The Rose Hill Co. entertained good houses last week. The Rossow Midgets will be here on New Year's week, and a matinee will be given every day. On Friday, 31, the matinee will be specially for ladies and children.

COLUMBIA.—The management of this theatre present "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" this week instead of "A Hot Old Time," as formerly announced. It opened to a fairly good house 20, against the snow. "Hands Across the Sea" entertained fair audiences last week. A spectacular production of "Black Crook" is announced for Dec. 27 and week.

NEWARK MUSEE.—The attendance continues good at this resort. The bill this week includes Prof. Litt's trained horse "Starlight" and troupe of performing dogs; Morse and Berwick, sketch team; Tesla's phenacistoscope, W. J. Williams baritone singer; Annie Wilsey, serio comic; Master Jackson, buck dancer. As a special feature for New Year's week Gertie Cochran has been engaged.

TRILBY NICKELODEON.—Business is extending here and the amateur night is a big success. An augmented bill this week mentions Nannie Russell, Babe Riel, Mazie Howard, Cad Hunter, Nellie Hamelton, Gene Humphrey and the cinematographe.

NEWS.—Dorothy Morton and her company appeared at Columbus Hall Theatre, Orange, Saturday night, 18, under the auspices of the Memorial Hospital Association. The play was "Miss Brevity of Hong Kong," and delighted a large audience. ......Harry S. Healy, manager of the fortnightly performance in the Krueger Auditorium, has been engaged by F. F. Proctor as stage director...... Bessie Montgomery, of this city, who is now in the West, lately signed a contract to sing in a new opera to be produced in New York City next season. ......Mme. Julie Kopacsy sang in "Waldmeister" at the Auditorium, Sunday night, 19, and delighted a large audience. The Hungarian Society presented her with a large floral basket.

Jersey City.—"Shannon of the Sixth," a play new to this section, opened at the Academy Dec. 20, for the week, with a large turnout. The play is good and decidedly interesting. To follow: "Two Little Vagrants." James O'Neill closed a fair week 18.

BON TON.—A large attendance, both at the matinee and night, turned out to see Mlle. Ani's Monarchs, who gave a good all 'round performance. Dolline Cole, the female baritone, made a hit with her singing, and was recalled over and over again. Next week, Joe Oppenheimer's "Miss New York Jr." The Gay Masqueraders closed a profitable week 18.

COURT HOUSE THEATRE.—Ida Somerville, Lillie Sheldon, Blanch Stetson, Ada Russell, Della West, Ed. Zereeth, Dennella and Ida Zereeth. Business is good.

OLYMPIC.—Maud Bevington, Annie Austin, Helne Taylor and Rose and Louie Jeannette. Business is large.

NOTES.—Advertising Agent John Moore, of the Academy, was remembered by Manager William F. Conners for services rendered last season by the presentation of a magnificent opal stick pin, encrusted with diamonds......Geo. Clarke, who has been on the road with an attraction entitled "In Atlantic City," is at home again, and very glad of it......Harry Krammer, who has been a member of "The Gay Masqueraders," was locked up last week for charges preferred against him by Manager Dinkins, of the Bon Ton, for beating his wife. The team are no longer connected with the company, Manager Manchester having discharged them......Mabel Mansfield is booked for a four weeks' date outside of New York City, opening at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., week of 27...... Lillian Rehan and Belle Doyle are at Yonkers, N. Y., this week. The team is doing good work and their time is well filled...... Edward L. Kidder, the author of "Shannon of the Sixth," and Mrs. Kidder were pleasant visitors, and occupied a box at the Academy 20. The play, Mr. Kidder informed your correspondent, has been almost entirely rewritten......Al. W. Maddox and Florence Beach, and O'Brien, Jennings and O'Brien are late additions to Mlle Ani's Monarchs. Manager Harry Hill is laid up with a severe cold...... Monte Moses, advertising agent at the Bon Ton, has charge of the main door, taking the place of Kirk Rundtell, who is ill. Property Man Emory Lenhow is also laid up, and Fly Man Wm. McAnney is looking after the props......Ida Somerville, at the Court House Theatre, 18, made a good impression.

Hoboken.—The Naval Reserves of New Jersey have secured the Lyric for Dec. 20, when they will give a minstrel entertainment. The Casino Operatic Burlesquers have nights of Dec. 21, 22. Darkest America 23-25. Business last week was fair.

IMPERIAL.—Manager Weinthal is working like a beaver to have his hall in readiness for Christmas. Business has been heavy. This week Sinclair and Carlisle, Boyd and O'Brien, Lillie Adams, Nellie Edwards, the Gondiers, Belle Ames, Carrie Frevort and Petite Sinclair.

GANTZBERG'S.—Elsie and Cora Burlington, Madge Mason, Amalie Rema, Frida Von Norden and Carl Gertig. Manager Bernhard reports business excellent.

BIJOU.—Nina Lester, Lew Desmond, Mabel Lake, Florence Zeller, the Princeton Sisters and others. Business is big.

HUDSON HALL.—Maggie Clausen, Carrie Kaufman, Ama Cumings, Inez Lee, Virgie Risbee and Billie Howe. Business is good.

LYCEUM.—Manager Kennedy states that since he has assumed the management here the business has been beyond expectations. This week he has Mamie Diamond Lillie Kane Lenia Cooley, Fredia Clayton, Josie Diamond, Mlle. De Laska, Emma Wood, Lizzie Haywood Hattie Bennett and Geo. Le Roy. Geo. E. Wood is leader. The talent, if at all satisfactory, are engaged for an indefinite period.

NOTES.—The Chevalier Sisters, who were booked for the Imperial, were obliged to cancel on account of the serious illness of Lillie Chevalier, who was compelled to close 15......Little Beatrice Louise Cummings, daughter of Annie Cummings, made her first appearance on any stage at the Grand Opera House, N. Y. City, with Geo. W. Monroe's "A Happy Little Home," Dec. 18......Nina Lester will sail on the next steamer to Carracas, Venezuela, S. A., to join the Great Apollo Circus, which is touring that country........Madge Mason is booked for a return date at the Bijou, where she is a great favorite. She is an excellent singer and a good performer......Lew Diamond has been sick, but he is now on the mend.......Emma Wood, who is filling an indefinite date at the Lyceum, is an excellent performer......Petite Sinclair made her first appearance on any stage at the Imperial 20. ......Mrs. Krammer, wife of Harry Krammer, got transportation through the efforts of her professional brothers and left for Alexandria, Va., her home, 18.

Elizabeth.—At the Star Theatre Harry Pierson's Minstrels came Dec. 16, 17, to only fair business, at popular prices. The performance gave general satisfaction. Cameron Clemens' Repertory Co. comes 23-25, "The White Slave" 29, "Secret Enemy" Jan. 1, "Old Lavender" 30.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—"The Devil's Auction" came 16, to light house, but the show pleased. "The Deacon's Daughter" came 18, to a fairly good sized audience, who cordially welcomed Miss Kennedy, who is a favorite in Elizabeth. "Darkest America" comes 22, "Eight Bells" 24, "My Wife's Friend" 25, "Gayest Manhattan" 29, "The Real Widow Brown" Jan. 1, "Never Again" 3.

TIPS.—The announcement of the coming of Mrs. Fiske, in "Tess of D'Ubervilles," at the Star Theatre, 8, has caused no little interest in Elizabeth, and already the demand for seats, at advanced prices, has commenced from many of the towns adjacent to Elizabeth, as well as this city. It is expected that Mrs. Fiske will play to standing room.......Lillian Kennedy, who has purchased "The Charity Girl," will produce it in February in several towns in New York State. It is expected that Miss Kennedy will make a stronger hit in this play than in "The Deacon's Daughter." Miss Kennedy and company left 19 for Philadelphia, where they lay off until 25, when they play Allentown, Pa......Edward Harrigan plays "Old Lavender" Jan. 3, at the Star Theatre, under a guarantee, for Court Hancock, of the Independent Foresters of Elizabeth.......Miss Catherine Pyler, wife of Charles Pyler, known in theatrical circles in Trenton and elsewhere, who died in St. Michael's Hospital, Newark, 16, was buried from McCormick & Lee's undertaking parlors, Elizabeth, 17. Interment was made in Evergreen Cemetery, Elizabeth.

Paterson.—Hennessy Le Royle presented Other People's Money" at the Opera House Dec. 14, 15, to fairly good houses. Yale's "Devil's Auction" had good business 17, 18. Bookings: J. C. Stewart's "The Wicked City" 23, 24; Kate Claxton, in "The Two Orphans," 25; "Cuba's Vow" 27-29, "A Guilty Mother" 30–Jan. 1.

EDEN THEATRE.—Wm. C. Andrew's "My Wife's Friend" Co. closed a very successful week at this house 18. "The Black Crook" is the bill for 20 and week. For week of 27 a house show is announced, with the following people: Jerome and Alexis, the Five Nosses, Wilson and McIntyre, the Luciers, Ladell and Alvero, Gruett, Beers and Gruett, Dryden and Leslie, Lizzie and Vinie Daly, Gallagher and Evans, Wm. Weston Starr.

BIJOU THEATRE.—The Watson Sisters' Burlesque Co. is the bill at this house for 20 and week. The "Miss New York Jr." Co. had good houses 13 and week.

Trenton.—At Taylor's Opera House "The Devil's Auction" came Dec. 15, to fair business. Henshaw and Ten Broeck, 18, had light business. "Darkest America," 20, had fair business. Booked: "A Bachelor's Honeymoon" 23, "Eight Bells" 25, Gayest Manhattan 28, "The Real Widow Brown" 29, "Never Again" Jan. 1, Maude Hillman Co. 3 and week.

PEOPLE'S THEATRE.—Wood Sisters, 16-18, had fair business. The Gay 400, 20-22.

THE NICKELODEON has closed......Jim McVey was here last week, visiting old friends.

Plainfield.—At the Stillman Music Hall Edison's graphoscope, Dec. 13, 14, came to good houses. E. J. Hasson, in "One of the Finest," canceled 17. Henshaw and Ten Broeck, in "Dodge's Trip to New York," come 20, "Darkest America" 21, Jas. Darling, in Roland Reed's play, "Lend Me Your Wife," 25.

IOWA.—[See Page 705.]

Des Moines.—"The Widow Jones," with Flo Irwin leading, appeared Dec. 18 to fair business, at Foster's Opera House. "Secret Service" did its largest business of the season 17. "A Southern Romance" filled two nights to poor business 13, 14. Coming: Delmore and Wilson, in "The Broadway Girl," 21; the Bostonians, in "The Serenade," 22; Murray and Mack, in "Finnigan's Courtship," 25; Chicago University Glee Club 27, "A Contented Woman" 28, Donnelly and Girard 29, "The Prisoner of Zenda" 30, "Courted Into Court" Jan. 1.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"She" played to average business 13-15. Coming: "A Bunch of Keys" 23, Ogden Bennett, in a Klondike lecture, 25; "Shantytown" 28, 29, "The Heart of Chicago" 30–Jan. 1.

WILLIAM J. ROMAIN joined the "A Southern Romance" Co. here, to play the leading role.

World of Players.

The Clipper Annual for 1898.

This invaluable book of ready reference, so rich in matters of special and abiding interest alike to workers in the amusement field and to the millions of people who patronize stage offerings, will be placed before the public the first week in January. As usual, it contains a complete chronology of events that have transpired in the theatrical world during the year now near its close, together with a professional necrology, embracing the dramatic vaudeville, minstrel, circus and miscellaneous while the attractiveness, as well as the value, of the book is materially enhanced by the numerous half tone portraits of prominent stage celebrities with which it is illustrated.

—Gertie Clark and Todd Peterson, both members of Stetson's "U. T. C." Co., were married Dec. 16, at Gloversville, N. Y.

—Robert A. Kelly is playing the Deacon with Harry La Marr's Co., in "A New England Home," under the management of Frank W. Nason.

—Walter Booth joined his wife, Virginia Fisher, Dec. 10, at Rochester, N. Y. Mrs. Booth is there, caring for the orphan children of her sister, who died a year ago.

— Millen's Musical Comedy Co. closed a week's engagement at Paddock's Opera House, Beatrice, Neb., Dec. 18.

— Chas. Sheldon Roe has purchased the business of the Amateur Supply Co., and hereafter it will be conducted under his management.

— Frank L. Gregory, late of the Clair Tuttle Comedy Co., has joined W. M. Goldie's Musical Comedy Co., travelling in Massachusetts.

— The Courtenay Morgan Co. closed a week in Woodstock, Can., Dec. 11. Roster: Miss Courtenay Morgan, Lyle Lambert, Maud Collinge, Ella Sefton, Myrtle Williams, H. B. Morgan, manager; Sefton Morgan, Frederick Lyle, Arnold C. Baldwin, Prof. Brandt, Teddy Morgan, with W. D. Cornyn in advance.

— Ralph Stuart, recently leading man of the Schiller Stock Co., will be seen in the leading role of "The Westerner." He will be supported by Sylvia Bidwell, Emeline Barr, Mrs. Marion Holcombe, George Herbert, Leigh Morrison, Emile Collins, C. T. Del Vecchio, Ernest Willis and Dudley Bragdon. E. Frohloff will act as treasurer. Mr. Stuart has made arrangements for "The Lost Paradise" also, and next season will go on tour, alternating in the two plays.

— Mme. Sembrich has succeeded in canceling the engagements that had been made for her to sing in San Francisco and other far Western cities. She is to appear soon at the Thomas concerts in Chicago, and after that she has a few engagements to fill in the East. As soon as they are over she will return to Europe. Mr. Hirschberg, who was her manager early in the season, has retired from that position, and her husband, Professor Stengel, is at present looking after her business interests.

— The Christmas number of *The Dramatic Mirror* has been received. It is, as usual, "a thing of beauty," and can boast as well of more substantial merit. It is liberally illustrated, and its portraits of players, past and present, constitute an interesting feature. Many professionals have enriched its pages with the products of their pens, and history, fiction, essay and verse testify to their fitness for literary pursuits. The work is a welcome addition to holiday literature, and will no doubt be cordially greeted by members of the profession and those who are interested in stage people and their work.

— Goldie's Musical Comedy Co. is in the sixth week of its fourth year. Billy Archer is booking and handling the show in advance.

— Bronson Howard and Charles Klein are collaborating on a play which will be produced in this city shortly.

— Manager Geo. W. Bowers, of the new Union Opera House, at New Philadelphia, Ohio, writes: "The new Union Opera House was opened night of Dec. 15 by Edwin F. Mayo and company, in 'Pudd'nhead Wilson.' The elite of the city were out. To the grand old CLIPPER we owe our opening attraction, and also other standard attractions that follow, next being 'For Fair Virginia,' whose date is 29, and for which tickets are selling rapidly. An 'ad.' in THE CLIPPER goes a great way. Long live THE OLD STANDARD."

— Walter Perkins goes through the East with "My Friend from India." Fred Mower plays the eccentric old man.

— Charles Arnold, of "Hans the Boatman" renown, sails for England about Jan. 2, and goes thence to Australia.

— "A Southern Romance" closes the season Dec. 25.

— S. A. Mitchell and wife (Pauline Edwards) and baby are spending the holidays at St. Paul, Minn.

— Robert Sherman's company was joined by Juno Barrett last week, who will do soubrettes. The roster: Fred. Hubbard, Roy Way, Maurice Thornton, E. A. Mason, Phil. Bishop, Prof. W. R. Wilson, Wm. Thomas, Florence Hamilton, Eliza Mason, Marie Borbroka, Juno Barrett and Robert Sherman. They are playing "My Friend from Arkansas," "Her Enemy's Hand," "The Gal Out West," "The Rat King," "Mr. Montana," "Ticket of Leave Man" and "The Way of the World."

— D. J. McClintock writes: "My ad. in THE CLIPPER brought me great results. The letters came pouring in at every mail, and I was able to select an excellent co. from the list. The roster is as follows: Vernie Lee, Miss Bennor, Lottie Carmen, M. H. Hamman, M. W. Zellie, Ben F. Mack, W. B. Fredericks, D. F. McClintock, Master Erwin and Little Emily; D. J. McClintock, manager; Ed. Alton, treasurer. The co. will open in Lorain, O., Christmas, and will remain there the remainder of the season, with the exception of a few week stands in the larger cities in the vicinity."

VIRGINIA.

Richmond.—"A Stranger in New York" had its first local production at the Academy of Music Dec. 14, 15, and scored heavily. The house was crowded at each performance with highly appreciative audiences. Eugenie Blair, 16, 17, drew fairly well, but canceled after matinee 17, owing to the illness of her leading lady, Miss Downing. "Twelve Temptations" was accorded flattering receptions at two performances 18. James O'Neill comes 24, 25, Rosabel Morrison, in "Carmen," 27; Henshaw and Ten Broeck 28, 29, "Never Again" 30, "My Friend from India" 31–Jan. 10.

PUTNAM'S THEATRE COMIQUE.—Opening 20 and week: Maggie Morris, Rosa Loretto, Kittie Myers and James Cook. Business continues fair.

Norfolk.—"A Stranger in New York" was presented at the Academy of Music Dec. 13, to the delight of a crowded house. Eugenie Blair, who followed 14, 15, was not so fortunate, the attendance being rather slim, though her efforts were deserving of better patronage. "Twelve Temptations" closed the week 17, playing to good business. James O'Neill is booked for 23 Henshaw and Ten Broeck 25, "Darkest America" 27, "Under the Red Robe" 28, "My Friend from India" 30, "Never Again" 31, "A Baggage Check" Jan. 1.

THE STAR THEATRE, formerly Opera House, Homans, Odendual & Co. lessees, will be opened for the season 20 with Cora Van Tassell and company. This theatre, which was lately put in very good condition by the former lessees, has been the scene of activity on the part of a large force of workingmen putting on the finishing touches. New scenery has been added, and the chairs all covered in old rose plush; in fact, everything possible has been done for the comfort of the patrons. Popular prices will prevail, and the management declares its intention of running the house as a strictly first class family resort.

BIJOU THEATRE.—People expected week of 20 are Dora Joyce, Mamie Lincoln and La Petite Abbie. One of the principal attractions for the week will be the cinematograph, lately purchased by Mr. Smith, which will be operated for the first time Monday night.

ATLANTIC GARDEN.—This resort will be strengthened week of Dec. 20 by Marie Raymond, Maude Leonard, Mlle. Clara, Geona Rose, and Gibbons and Barrett.

Petersburg.—At the Academy of Music the Veteran Corps Band, of Baltimore, gave a delightful concert to a small gathering Dec. 12. "The Twelve Temptations" had the universal approval of a good sized audience 16. Henshaw and Ten Broeck come 27.

FLORIDA.

Jacksonville.—At Park Theatre Palmer Cox's "Brownies," on account of inclement weather, in conjunction with advanced prices, received only fair patronage Dec. 13, 14, with matinee. Booked: Robert Downing, in "Sampson and Delilah," 22; "Joshua Simpkins" 25.

World of Players.

— John Griffith, under the direction of Harry Martell, enters soon upon his annual Canadian tour, which will extend over a period of three weeks, after the most prosperous Western tour he has ever experienced. "Mr. Griffith's reception in the far West as Mephisto and Richard," writes Ridge Waller, general agent, "can only be described as an ovation." Mr. Griffith has surrounded himself with a company who surpass all others who have formerly been in his support. Mr. Griffith will add next season to his repertory an entirely new play. Roster: John Griffith, John Fay Palmer, J. Arthur Loining, Frank Van Zandt, Geo. Montsenal, W. T. O'Brien, Lawrence Brayington, Wm. Hoster, Phillip Bottler, Calvin Melvin, Carl Bach, Frank Wilson, Lewis Summers, Kathryn Olver, Kate A. Beebe, Helen Darke, Josie Earl, Maud Murray, Helen Gray, Tina Telier, Lillian Lohmiller, Sep. Earl, business manager; Ridge Waller, agent; J. Arthur Loining, stage director; Jno. H. Howard, stage carpenter; Fred L. Bradley, assistant stage carpenter; Jno. Riley, electrician.

— The company supporting Clara George includes Lulu Gregory, Estella Russell, Frank A. Pierce, J. C. Franklin, C. H. Burrell, G. C. Tucker, W. H. Thompson, Harry Hoffman, stage director; D. J. Hamilton, musical director; W. P. Reddell, advance agent, under the management of H. B. Whitaker.

— F. J. Taylor, of Hoyt's Theatre, this city, has just returned from Grand Rapids, Mich. He mourns the loss of his father, who died in that city 28.

— E. H. Macoy, manager of the Bijou Theatre, Chicago, Ill., is out with a characteristic postal card, expressing the seasons' greetings to his friends.

— Major E. O. Bills, whose drum major specialty has been one of the specialty features of the Miles Ideal Stock Co. for the past four months, closed with above company Dec. 11, at Taunton, Mass., and on Dec. 13 joined J. J. McGlynn and J. J. Magee, in "Out of Sight," to do his drum major work.

— Clarence Fleming, in the future, will manage Eugenie Blair. He joined her company at Rochester, N. Y., Dec. 20.

— A movement is on foot among the leading musicians of this city to tender Adolph Neuendorff's widow, Mme. Georgine von Januschowski, a benefit, to take place some time about the middle of January.

— Helen Ward joined the Thompson Comedy Co. at Norwich, N. Y., for the season.

— Edith Oglesby, of the "Si Perkins" Co., reports the death of her mother, Mrs. Nettie Kellogg, at Grossdale, Ill., Dec 9.

— Mrs. Harry Hicks, Princess Nuetah, has been compelled to close with the Western Comedy Co. on account of illness.

— Roster of the Columbian Comedy Co.: J. Knox Gavin, G. Bruce Richardson, W. F. Powell, C. P. Coast, Joe Williard, Ben Praner, E. B. Stogdill, Elmer Fitzgerald, Alfred Deno, Master Russell Craner, Jennie Piatt, Sadie Hart, Bonaire Price, Mayme Craner, Carrie Stogdill, Harry Freeze, agent; J. Knox Gavin, sole owner and manager; Elmer Fitzgerald, band master; Ben Craner, leader of orchestra. Mrs. E. Fitzgerald is spending the holidays with her husband.

— Roster of Nellie Irving's Players: Nellie Irving, Pearl Emmett, Netta Mowry, Alice King, Eugenie Woods, Little Bessie, A. J. Benn, Chas. Kempt, Tom Whelan, L. G. Taylor, Frank Hayes, properties; L. L. Greene, manager; Geo. Bowen, proprietor; J. T. Thayer, advance. Business is reported as being excellent with the company thus far.

— Florence Wilson's Comedy Co., of which Florence Wilson is sole owner, and W. S. Shedman is manager, opened its season on Dec. 21, at Morristown, Pa. They will play one night stands through Pennsylvania for three weeks.

— J. Walter Kennedy, the tragic actor, has engaged Cathleen Moot, a young society woman, of Boston, to support him in "Othello," "Virginius," "Samson," and "Damon and Pythias."

— Joseph D. Clifton writes that on Dec. 8, at Sistersville, W. Va., the Jane Agnott company was entertained by the Elks of that town, and had a royal time. Friday evening, 11, the Elks presented Miss Agnott (Mrs. Jos. D. Clayton) with a large basket of flowers, for which they had to send to Wheeling, W. Va.

— C. Eddie Morton writes that his ad. in CLIPPER brought him many answers, but he has decided to stay with "A Thoroughbred" for the remainder of the season. The roster of the company: C. Eddie Morton, Billy A. Griffin, R. M. Dear, Gus Authur, Eddie P. Bower, Felix Dumas, R. T. McGowen, Nellie McGowen, Julia Geyer, Gertrude Mack, Lorene Janson and Maud Henley.

— A. W. Ellis, a member of the Kirke Comedy Co., and his wife, Madge Daley Ellis, recently gave a dinner party to the members of the company and several friends, to commemorate the first anniversary of their marriage.

— Joe Kerr has completed his dramatization of George Manville Fenn's novel, "This Man's Wife," and the same will be produced under the title of "A Woman's Faith."

— Letters of administration on the estate of Mrs. Louisa Drew were granted on Dec. 16 by Surrogate Fitzgerald to her son, John Drew. Mr. Drew said that the value of his mother's estate was $200, which was all in personal property.

— Paul Kester has finished a new play, entitled "What Dreams May Come," which will be presented in January by a company including Mme. Janauschek, Courtney Thorpe, Maude Banks, Mrs. Salvini, the wife of Alexander Salvini, and William Redmund.

— William Terriss, the well known English actor, who was playing Wm. Gillette's part in "Secret Service," was stabbed and killed Dec. 16, while he was approaching the stage entrance of the Adelphi Theatre, London, Eng., to prepare for the evening performance. Richard Arthur Prince, a discharged super, committed the crime because of a desire for vengeance for some fancied wrong. Mr. Terriss was entering the stage door when Prince, who had evidently been lying in wait for him in a neighboring doorway, rushed upon him and stabbed him with a butcher's knife twice in the back and once in the breast. The crowd surrounding the entrance to the stage quickly seized and overpowered the assassin, who was hurried to the station house, while Mr. Terriss was carried inside the door, where he soon died of his wounds. Prince, who is known as "Mad Arthur," was subsequently arraigned at Bow Street Police Court and held until Dec. 22.

— Thos. C. Byers, manager of the Pelhams, writes thus: "B. M. Garfield attached the show at Ithaca, N. Y., Dec. 9, upon a judgment he held against the Pelhams. Mr. Pelham, who is in no way interested in the present company other than as stage manager and leading comedian, for which he receives his salary, did not, after quite a spirited interview, settle; but Mr. Garfield, rather than stand me a trial in the courts of Tompkins County, agreed upon a settlement with matters in my favor and much in the way of expense to Mr. Garfield. There are twelve people with the company, including Claude D. Pelham, Carl Vernon, Geo. Hutchingson, Geo. Cotter, E. W. Zeigler, Edward Barton, Ruth Murdock, Adele Ray, Mable Pelham, Margueritte Kittie Aryman and Thos. C. Byers."

— The Boston Theatre Co. includes Gertrude D. Magill, Eunice Fitch, Sadie E. Davis, Ida M. Jewell, Alice Simpson, Jennie Elmore, Mamie Elmore and Master Edmund Keene. Repertory: "Legally Dead," "The Boy from Boston," "Two Kids," "Daly's Daughters," "Rip Van Winkle," "Streets of New York," "Monte Cristo" and "A Packet of Wives."

— Theodore Moss has sent out invitations to all the managers of this city and many of the leading actors to meet him at Wallack's Theatre to make arrangements for the presentation of a stained glass window, in memory of Dr. Houghton, to the Little Church Around the Corner by the dramatic profession. Mr. Moss' idea is to present a large window —one that will fill the whole end of the chancel. The vestry of the church has, it is understood, expressed a willingness to accept the gift as coming from the whole dramatic profession, and it is intended that every actor, actress and manager in the country shall have an opportunity of contributing something toward defraying the expense.

— Alberta Gallatin, of the Joseph Jefferson Company, which closed its season in Albany, N. Y., will shortly take the road, supported by Kendal Weston, under the direction of George Buckler. She will play "Camille," "The Ironmaster," "A Scrap of Paper," "Carmen" and 'Denise.",

— Sherman and Morrisey and Zoe Mathews join "In Gay Paris" Co. for the coast tour.

— The Liliputians will present "The Fair at Midgettown" in the English language Dec. 24, at the Newark Theatre in Newark, N. J. This will be the first attempt of the miniature actors to play in English.

— Faithe Oberg has signed for the remainder of the season to play leading heavies with J. Walter Kennedy, in his legitimate repertory, including "Samson," "Damon and Pythias" and "Virginius." The season opens Dec. 25.

— Harry Cushman states that he is no longer with "A Trip to Coontown."

—The Whittier-Martine Comedy Co. reports good business on its Maine tour. Dorothy Horr joined Dec. 1c The engagement at Rockland proved so satisfactory that Manager Black secured the company for three performances Christmas eve and Christmas Day. In order to fill the date it was necessary to cancel two stands, and the company is now resting until Christmas. During the interim three new pieces are being rehearsed. The company opens 27 at Bangor, with Calais and St John to follow. F. S. Smith, who for two seasons has been manager of privileges with Prescott's Circus, which Winters in Rockland, was entertained by Manager Prescott and several members of the band who are Wintering in the city, during his stay in that town.

— Senter Payton's Comedy Co., now touring Illinois, is composed of the following people: Senter Payton, proprietor and manager; Jas. A. Feltz, business manager; Robert Nagle, leader of band and orchestra; J. A. Wolfe, stage manager; Victor Cooper, master of properties; Chas. Hatfield, D. E. Curts, Fred Moore, Billy Paige, Henry Nagle, Willie Neber, Ed. Kreyer, John Hammond, Hedrix and Prescott, John Fuller, Mat Theodore, Lucy Payton, Vina Payton, Cornelia Curts, Iola Payton, Josie Stafford and Baby Curts.

— Notes from the Chase-Lister Co.: We played Tahlequala, the capital of the Indian nation, recently, and was the first repertory company in the town in two years. Business was, of course, big. Albert Taylor is a recent addition to the company, otherwise the roster is the same as at the opening of the season.

— Manager M. C. Anderson, of the Walnut Street Theatre, Cincinnati, O., wires us under date of Dec 19: "Biggar and Haverly, in 'A Railroad Ticket,' turned people away at both performances here today."

— Joe N. Machan, manager of the Machan Dramatic Co., writes that the company is in its eighth week and business is good. They are booked to play return dates in several towns.

— Notes from the Edna Paige Comedy Co.: We opened our season at Oswego, Kan., Nov. 8, and have met with big success. We carry twelve people, also an Edison vitascope, and are booked solid through Colorado, Arizona and New Mexico. The gentleman in white has no use for crutches. Roster: Edna Paige, Lillian Harrison, Nina Paul, Emma Foote, Master Glenn Harrison, Baby Mildred, M. A. Reed, Chas. Foote, E. F. Kreger, W. C. Steely, musical director; Chas. Harrison, stage director; W. L. Potts, general business manager; W. W. Potts, advance.

— Hoyt's Comedy Co. will open the new Opera House at Arthur, Ill., Christmas Day, to follow with a return date at Tuscola, Ill. Their last ad. in THE CLIPPER brought them over 600 answers.

— Jas. T. McAlpin and wife (Dolly Foster) have closed with the Eastern "Ole Olson" Co., and are at their home in Chicago, Ill.

— Joseph H. Slater, stage director of Blaisdell & Brown's Comedians, is producing his own plays with the above company.

— The management of "A New England Home" write that they find business so good and so many managers wanting time that they have decided to put out a No. 2 company, which will in every way be up to the standard established by the No 1 company, which, in spite of bad weather, did good business all last week.

— Geo. E. Mello has signed with Stephen Fitzpatrick to play Tommy Littlechub, in "A Legal Document," by Edwin Barber.

— A. Hunter Jarreau will put on a benefit performance for the military company of Alexandria, La., on Jan. 6.

— Chas. H. McKinley and Alice Kemp have been re-engaged by Marks Bros. for the rest of the season.

— Dick Chantrell and Ivy Schuyler have joined A. Q. Scammon's "Real Widow Brown" Co. for the remainder of the season, opening Dec. 20 at Montreal, Can.

—Geo. L. and Junita Powell have rewritten their opera, "Mexico," and are producing it in the smaller towns of Iowa.

—Manager Charles A. Cotter has secured Harry Clay Blaney to succeed Chas. Dickson in the role of Bedart the Florist, in "Lost, Strayed or Stolen," which is now touring the Northwest. Mr. Blaney will be featured in the company during the remainder of the season.

— Stuart Robson presented Augustus Thomas' version of "The Jucklins" for the first time at the Tabor Grand Opera House, Denver, Col., Dec. 17.

— Tim McVicker, late manager and comedian of the Minnie Cox Star Comedy Co., is laid up with a severe cold. The company is closed in to reorganize.

— Lorin J. Howard and J. B. Rotnour, managers of the Howard-De Voss Co., will dissolve partnership in Nevada, Mo., week of Dec. 20, Mr. Howard taking his own company in a repertory to include "Pavements of Paris," "Storm Beaten," "Straight Tip," "Apple Orchard Farm," "Master and Man" and others.

— Manager L. Mackey, of "A Stag Party" Co., states that Inez Verrault and Mamie Hornish were paid in full before leaving his company at Lansing, Mich.

— Will T. Hacke has closed his own company, and has been engaged to play the English comedy part in H. R. Graham's Co.

— Notes from Curts' Comedians: We are again in Illinois, and have decided to go South and East. Wednesday of last week the entire company were shown through the coal mines at Cable by Mine Superintendent Lee. In the evening, at the home of Miss Eldridge, a reception was given the company after the show. Our roster is as follows: M. H. Curts, manager and proprietor; C. D. Newman, H. L. Beales, Lew Zeller, advance representative; Lee Smith, violinist; Miss Donna C. Archer, pianiste; Lida Curts, Edna Browning and Marie Herican.

— Cora Van Tassell and her reorganized company opened the New Star Theatre, Norfolk, Va., Dec. 20, for a two weeks' engagement. Frank R. Blitz, who has been business manager with Millie Christine for many years, will direct Miss Van Tassell's tours in the future. Roster: Frank R. Blitz and wife, Cora Van Tassell, May Niblo Drew, Claire Summers, Carrie Southworth, Zephie Dinsmore, William Stuart, Frank Allen, James Allen, Frank W. Smith, Francis Duron, Harry Rowl, George Edwards, Lionel Marcet, F. R. Dearborn, Pete Raymond and R. J. Harold.

— The Carrie Stanley Burns Co. opens its third week at Daniels' Family Theatre, Albany, N. Y., Dec. 20. The roster: Carrie Stanley Burns, Annie Mitchell, Carrie Wood, Baby Walter Burns, Richard Raymond, W. Dehlman, Earl Stanley, John Latta, Harry Lorain, H. D. Brown, Walter Hamlin, H. K. Evarts, W. D. Bailey, J. Wehe, Ed. Johnson. Marlow and Plunket also appear nightly in their sketches. Next week the company present "La Mafia" and their version of "The Two Orphans."

— Josie Mills informs us that her company has not closed, but has only temporarily suspended, to resume her Canadian tour with the New Year.

— The Ed. Anderson Theatre Co. opened the new Opera House at Fillsboro, Ind., Dec. 13.

— Mrs. Louise Rial, now with the "At Piney Ridge" company, has been granted a divorce from her husband, James G. Rial, in Chicago. Mr. Rial was granted a divorce some months ago on the ground of abandonment, but it was set aside, and Mrs. Rial has now been given a decree on the same ground.

— Rose Figman, of the Castle Square Opera forces, was run down and seriously injured by a cab in this city Dec. 18.

—Fred C. Hoey is engaged for Talleyrand in Mlle. Rhea's new play, "The Empress of France."

—Fred. E. Le Comte, business manager of "A Breezy Time;" John G. McDowell and E. A. Thomas, of the same company, were banqueted by a party of friends of the former at Winfield, Kan.

— Alfred Kendrick, leading man in Julia Marlowe's company, which closed a weeks's engagement at Macauley's Theatre, Louisville, Ky., fainted on the stage during the third act of "Ingomar," Dec. 18. He was cast for the title role, and as he did not rally quickly it was necessary to omit the fourth act, while in the fifth act Mr. Kendrick was barely able to repeat his lines. He had been in bad health and was broken down by the additional work of daily rehearsals of the new play, "The Countess Valeska," which is to be presented for the first time at Cincinnati, O., Dec. 24.

— Wm. Oliver has purchased the Lansing Theatre, Lincoln, Neb., and it will hereafter be managed by John Dowden Jr., as the Oliver.

— Dorothy Kent and Jas. F. Kelly were married Dec. 14, at Haverhill, Mass.

— C. E. Goddard has signed to open at Detroit, Mich., Dec. 27, with Morton's "Two Orphans" Co.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Charlotte.—At the Charlotte Opera House, Dec. 14, the house was crowded to see "Miss Francis of Yale." The company was one of the best ever seen here, Etienne Girardot receiving spontaneous applause throughout the performance. Miss Homan added to the potency of the strong cast. Fields & Hanson's Minstrels, 13, played to a small audience, good dancing being the only particular feature of the show. The members were entertained after the performance by the newly instituted local lodge of Elks.

Vaudeville and Minstrel

M. WITMARK & SONS, the well known music publishers, announce a large and select list of new music for the mid season inspection of the profession, including many of the latest popular favorites in both the vocal and instrumental lines. In the selection for singers the list includes sentimental, comic and narrative ballads, with "coon" songs a plenty. Those who use instrumental music find an exhaustive list of music for all kinds of players.

HATTIE STARR has just completed a number of new songs, which she has placed with her publishers. They vary in class and style, proving her a versatile writer. The title of the songs which are now in press are: "Because of Two Tender Blue Eyes," telling the story of a Pierre's love for a princess; "When the Organ Plays," a pretty little waltz song, introducing a novel chorus; "I'm a Hoodoo Coon," which she wrote for Daisy Mayer; "Don't Say No, Daddy," a companion song to her former success, "You're So Good, Daddy;" "My Girl's Dad," an ingenious little novelty, and "I Love Somebody Just Like You," which Josephine Sabel is singing with excellent effect. The new comic song, "Miss Cadenza Brown," promises to be successful. Its author, Curtis A. Duval, is also composer of "Queen of the Vaudeville," which Lucy Daly is singing. "Cadenza Brown" is now in rehearsal by Johnny Carroll, Donnelly and Girard, Marie Dressler, George Monroe and Henry Dixey.

BILLY GRACE, of the Two Graces, writes thus: "Myself and wife have just finished making a drive, by wagon, from Wilmington, Del., to Bristol, Tenn., camping out, gypsy style. The trip was rough, but has fully restored my health, which has been bad for the past two years. We open at Alhambra Music Hall, Savannah, Ga."

ANNIE SCHAEFER and Elenore Gavini, operatic duettists, opened at the Alhambra, in Milwaukee, Wis., and are booked over the Hopkins circuit, to open Dec. 19.

MERRITT AND GALLAGHER are at the Bijou Theatre, Worcester, Mass., with the Casto Theatre, Fall River, to follow.

JOE HART and Carrie De Mar have been engaged for the Keith circuit, to appear in a sketch from Mr. Hart's pen, "The Quiet Mr. Gay."

JESSIE COUTHOUI, who was the feature of the bill at the Casto Theatre, Fall River, Mass., last week, will present her monologue at Proctor's Theatre, Dec. 27 and week.

ED. LAWRENCE and Nina Harrington were at Hopkins' Grand Opera House, St. Louis, Mo., last week, and close their tour of the Castle Hopkins circuit this week, at the Haymarket Theatre, Chicago, Ill. They come East at once to fill engagements, opening Jan. 3 at Proctor's Theatre, this city.

JONES AND SUTTON, colored performers, have played engagements recently at Proctor's Theatre and the Brooklyn Music Hall.

DUDLEY PRESCOTT, while playing at Proctor's, week of Dec 6 was presented with a stand of American beauty roses and carnations by brothers of Bethel Lodge, F. & A. M. Mr. Prescott joined Hopkin's Trans Oceanics Co. (Eastern) for the remainder of the season at Montreal, Can., Dec. 20

ELEANOR FALK is reported as making a hit singing "Oh, Susie" and "Girl from Paris," in the "Black Sheep" Co. Grace Vaughn, of the same company, is singing Horwitz and Bowers' "I'm the Bosom Friend of Albert, Prince of Wales," also with success.

WM. SLOMAN, who for the last five years has been agent for the Davis Bros.' "U. T. C.," is now general agent for the Leon W. Washburn's Big Double Minstrels Co.

THE DENVERS are with Burton's Comedians, Band and Orchestra, now touring the West.

COOKE AND CLINTON closed their engagement over the Orpheum circuit, and opened for a round of the Keith houses Dec. 20, at the Bijou, Philadelphia. They will shortly present a new finish, with pistols, for their act, which they claim will be a novelty.

WARREN AND CADY have just finished a two weeks' engagement at Austin's Electric Gardens, Syracuse, N. Y., and are booked for a return date.

JNO. A. WEST will close an engagement of fourteen consecutive weeks on the Castle-Hopkins' circuit Dec. 26, opening on Moore's Dec. 27, and Keith's, Philadelphia, Jan. 17.

MINNIE BELLE is singing at Pastor's this week, and introduced her own song, "While I Have You, Dear Old Dad," with stereopticon views, and the same has received very favorable comment.

ROSTER OF THE TRANS-ATLANTIC MUSICAL COMEDY CO.—Wallace Powelson, sole proprietor and manager; Raymond Briggs, eccentric monologue comedian, vocalist and elocutionist; Jessie Powelson, descriptive vocalist and paper queen; Fred Langley, Dutch, Irish and black face comedian and dancer; James and Gertie Adams, society sketch and character vocalists; La Kuka, contortionist and flying ring performor, and Master Walter, trapeze.

JAMES AND SADIE LEONARD produced their bag punching act at Pol's, New Haven, Ct., and Pastor's Theatre, this city, recently, and are booked at the Harlem Music Hall.

WALTER FORD has been re-engaged with the Fulgora Company, and will introduce a stereopticon act, besides his sketch with Frankie Francis, in which he will introduce some of his most successful compositions, including "Bells of Fate," "I Love You in the Same Old Way," "She's Been a Mother to Me" and "Sadie, My Lady."

JOHN T. HANSON and Mabel Drew, recently gave their specialty at the Cœur D'Alene Theatre, Spokane, Wash. They are now playing the People's Theatre, Seattle, for four weeks, with four weeks in Tacoma to follow.

FLO JANSEN, during the lay off of the Bohemian Burlesquers, week of Dec. 6, visited the Knickerbockers at Philadelphia and was presented with a handsome toilet set by Estelle Wills.

JOHN W. ISHAM is in the States for a few weeks, having arrived in New York two weeks ago. He will return to England after the holidays. The Octoroons are touring Great Britain, and will close in Liverpool, Eng., May 2, 1898. They will then return to this country.

RICHARD PITROT, El Zobedie and Adrienne Ancion played Pike's Opera House, Cincinnati, last week, following at Hopkins', St. Louis.

ROSTER OF THE CALIFORNIA CONCERT CO.—The Houdinis, Mason and Filbern, La Petite Eileen, Rosar Trio, Mlle. Leonatta, Geo. W. Smith, Bessie Rahner, Mons. Zardo, Hill & Pratt, proprietors; Will N. Mason, stage manager; Walter Martin, musical director.

HARRY HILL, manager of Mlle. Ani's Monarchs, writes us as follows: "Business with my show has been phenomenal all over the country. Last week we played to the banner week of the season at the Theatre Royal, Montreal, Can., and we opened to standing room at the Unique Theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y. I have engaged for my second tour West, Maddox and Beach, who are doing an entirely new character change sketch, entitled 'Archie's Disguise.' The rest of the olio consists of Zeryni, the Australian wonder; William and Adams, Morrisey and Rich, Emma Francis, Dolline Cole, the Deagons, Grace Celeste and the Deltorellis.

ALLIE GILBERT has been re-engaged at the Harlem Music Hall, New York, where she has been quite a sensation, introducing "My Coal Black Lady." She has a large sheet representing a water melon patch, with eighteen coons singing the song with her. She will also sing "Sadie, My Lady" and "Miss Modesty."

WOODWARD VAUDEVILLE NOTES.—We have just finished a twelve weeks' engagement through Aroostook County, Me., playing to satisfactory business. Tony Coleman, clog, jig and reel dancer, late of the Al. Martz Co. joined Nov. 20, replacing Chas. Burbank. His excellent work has materially strengthened the show. The genuine feature of the organization is Dollie C. Woodward, singing and dancing soubrette. She receives a warm welcome everywhere. Prof. John R. Nalon, trick and solo violinist, receives deserved applause. Harry Woodward, comedian, keeps the audience in an uproar with his country boy turn, and Will H. Latonia, magician and juggler, has proven himself to be a high class entertainer. The verdict is that this show is the strongest and best one we have ever had out. Manager Woodward has the company booked sol'd up to April 20 in Connecticut and Rhode Island. THE CLIPPER is a very welcome guest every week.

J. W. BRATTON's new Japanese Lantern Dance is now a permanent feature in Victor Herbert's Military Band. T. P. Brooke's Marine Band is giving Sunday afternoon concerts at the Great Northern Theatre, Chicago, Ill., and with their principal successes, "My Coal Black Lady," "Mammy's Little Pumpkin Colored Coons" and "I Want Dem Presents Back," they have struck the popular fancy.

HERBERT HALL WINSLOW has completed a petite comedy, entitled "The Kleptomaniacs," written especially for Lizzie Evans and Harry Mills.

MARTINI is this week at Davis' Museum, Scranton, Pa. He has just closed eight weeks over the New England circuit.

MEYER COHEN has retired from the stage, and taken the management of an Eastern office which Chas. K. Harris, the Milwaukee song publisher, has opened in this city.

MANAGER FRED J. HUBER writes to THE CLIPPER thus: "Vanity Fair is now in its sixteenth week, and up to now we are way ahead of last season, financially. Opinions vary as to the merits of this and last season's company; general comments favor this season's show. We have made but two changes, Marion and Vedder and Vernie Lalor being our new recruits, and, barring an accident, these will be the only changes we will make, as everything is working harmoniously and the performance could hardly be improved upon. Marion and Vedder are hitting them hard. Manly and Jarvis are universal favorites, while Mitchell and Jess crowd them hard for first place. Tom Jarvis and John Jess handle the comedy in the burlettas to the best possible advantage. The surprise of the season is the horizontal bar act of Newell and Shevett. The Weston Sisters are still prime favorites; Rosie Weston's rich contralto is the admiration of all. The Mahr Sisters are new faces in vaudeville houses, but they soon convince the audience that they understand their business. Marguerite Tebeau, baton twirler, is adding new and difficult tricks every week. Lena La Couvier's voice never was in better shape, and her turn goes very strong. Bessie Stanton, Nellie Berwick, Ethel Hughes and Vernie Lalor stretch the necks of many a hairless cranium. The bicycle race brings the sports."

CLARK BROTHERS have signed Howard and Emerson, the Cosmopolitan Trio and Emery and Marlow for their Royal Burlesquers next season.

J. W. VOGEL'S "DARKEST AMERICA" played their first New York date this season last week. Their parade through the uptown streets caused a sensation and included some novel features, a gigantic drum major heading the procession.

HANSON AND MACK and the Madderns close on Dec. 25 a four weeks' engagement at Flour's Concert Hall, Madison, Wis.

COL. M. SHULTS is confined to his home in New York by a severe attack of sciatica.

GEORGE M. COHAN was presented by Filson and Errol with a pair of diamond sleeve buttons on the stage at Proctor's Theatre, New York, Dec. 14. Arthur Sidman, in a fittingly framed address, made the presentation.

MRS. GEORGE H. KNIGHT is singing Ford & Bratton's new comic song, "Mary's Not As Green As She Looks." Anna Wilmuth Curran is also singing this song with success.

LUKEN BROS. sailed, Dec. 18, for Mexico, to join the Orrin Brothers Show.

ROWE AND CLEVELAND write from Denver, Col., that they are making a success throughout that country, and are very enthusiastic over the way their song illustrations are received. They introduce "She's Been a Mother to Me," "You're So Good, Daddy" and "Only Me."

KATHRYN PEARL is this week at Palace Garden, St. Paul, Minn., and goes from there to Minneapolis for two weeks.

LORA B. ROGERS, who was sick at her sister's home in Madison, Ga., was taken to a hospital in Stamford, Conn., where she is still seriously ill.

HARRIS AND PEARLLETTA are at the Howard Athenæum, Boston, Mass., this week.

JOHN HOLLINGSWORTH LORENZE and Loraine Cumley, both members of Gus Hill's Gay Masqueraders, were married at the Little Church Around the Corner, this city, Thursday, Nov. 16. Mr. and Mrs. William Mason accompanied them as best man and bridesmaid. They were presented with handsome presents by Manager Dinkins, of the Bon Ton Theatre, Brooklyn, Bob Manchester and all the members of the company.

CAPT. SIDNEY HINMAN opened at Davis' Theatre, Scranton, Pa., Dec. 20, to play the Western circuit until Spring.

A. B. SLOANE has finished a number of new popular songs, one being "Grisette," a catchy march song, which is to be sung by Grace Freeman. One of the ruling coon songs of the season is "My Coal Black Lady," by W. T. Jefferson. Among those who feature this song are: Johnny Carroll, Anna Held, Lizzie B. Raymond, Gertrude Mansfield, Little Irene Franklin, the Bernards, Allie Gilbert, Marie Stuart, Emile Briton and Lydia Barry.

NOTES FROM FIELDS & HANSON'S MINSTRELS.—We are now in Georgia, and the weather is sublime. Everybody in the company is in excellent health and spirits. William Dillon received a slide trombone, as a token of esteem, from "Zella," our suple man. Our company remains intact; not one member has been changed since our opening at Newark, N. J. Our business in the South is splendid. Our reputation has travelled ahead of us, and, although this is our first season south of Baltimore, every manager is acquainted with the trade mark. We open New Year's in Atlanta.

THE WILSON FAMILY, colored performers, played the Alhambra, Milwaukee, Wis., last week and have the Olympic, Chicago, Ill., to follow.

JONES AND SULLON played the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Music Hall Dec. 13 and week.

HOWARD AND MARENO were at Avery's Museum, Cincinnati, O., week of Dec. 3.

CLARK AND BRAGG have signed with Gus Hill's World of Novelties.

GILES, BROWN, ANDERSON AND SMITH were compelled to cancel this week at the Eden Musee, St. Joseph, Mo., on account of Bluch Smith's illness.

BARNEY FAGAN'S new elite coon song, "A Gentleman of Color," is reported by the publishers as promising to become another "High Born Lady."

NELSON SINCLAIR and Nellie Carlisle played last week at Proctor's Twenty-third Street, and next week play Huber's Museum, New York.

THE TWO LUCIERS closed an engagement on the Moore circuit at Detroit, Mich., Dec. 18. Dec. 27 and week they play Paterson, N. J., at the Eden Theatre.

GIBSON AND MELBURN are presenting a new act, "Law vs. Ignorance."

MEANY AND LENORA opened at the Haymarket Theatre, Chicago, Ill., Dec. 13, their second time on the Castle and Hopkins circuit this season.

ROSE ELLIS DONALDSON and Lillie Burt have joined hands.

FRED LURCH closes a fifteen weeks' engagement with La the Vance Novelty Co. Dec. 24, and will spend the holidays in Chicago.

RAYMOND AND WEST, white cake walkers, were successful at Bijou Theatre, Worcester, Mass., last week, and are booked at the Casto Theatre, Fall River, week of Dec. 20; Auditorium Theatre, Bridgeport, Conn., 27. They start for a tour of the West after Jan. 10.

HILL and WHITTAKER have made a hit at Keith's, using "Black Baby Mine" and "Yer Baby's Acomin' to Town." On the same programme are the Whitney Bros., in their novel musical act, using "All Coons Look Alike to Me," "Love You in the Same Old Way" and "Coal Black Lady."

JOHN R. MALON is making a success with his trick violin act through Maine.

JACK FAUST, business manager of Flynn & Sheridan's attractions, writes us that business is up to the high water mark, both with the Big Sensation and City Sports. The new venture for the coming season, the Metropolitan Burlesquers, Sheridan & Faust, sole managers, is well booked up, and will be one of the best of its kind on the road. After the close of the present season Phil Sheridan and his wife contemplate a trip to Europe, to procure novelties and the latest Parisian designs for wardrobe for their combined companies, City Sports and the Metropolitan Burlesquers, while Jack Faust will remain in New York at the home office to look after the business.

OWING to the sudden closing of the Bruns and Nina Co. at Springfield, Ill., Seeker and Wilkes and their Pickaninnies went to Chicago, and are playing there in a new act.

ERNEST WILSON and Miss Leila McIntyre will appear at the Eden Theatre, Paterson, N. J., Dec. 27, when they will produce their act, called "An Old Fashioned Romance," a story told in song. They are under contract to appear at Keith's Union Square Theatre, New York, on Feb. 28.

J. W. MYERS, the well known baritone singer, is making a feature of Ford & Bratton's descriptive song, "I Love You in the Same Old Way."

FROM THE AMERICAN BURLESQUERS.—Recent changes in the roster of the show include the engagement of the Washburn Sisters, Le Moyne Brothers, Clayton Sisters and Lydia Bristol. Business is reported to be very big in the West with this show, and the two weeks in Chicago were especially good. Our American Burlesquers, also Australian Beauties are booked solid for next season, and we have time offered to spare.

MLLE. LOVETTE, the club juggler and baton thrower, has recovered from her recent illness, and joins Reynolds & Arnold's Concert Comedy Company on Dec 27.

SPENCER BROS. just finished an eight weeks' engagement, playing all the leading vaudeville houses on the New England circuit. They are this week at Tony Pastor's Theatre, New York.

WILBUR AND MACK will open on the Castle-Hopkins circuit at St. Louis, Mo., on Dec. 26,

M. J. NEEDHAM was compelled to cancel the Howard Athenæum, Boston, Mass., last week, on account of the death of his mother.

TWO YOUNG AUTHORS in the field of popular song writing are Crane and Morningstar. They have been exceptionally fortunate with their songs, "Tobasco Jim" and "Chimes of Long Ago."

THE CALIFORNIA TRIO, Coogan, Rand and Tafe, have returned from a three months' tour over the Castle & Hopkins' circuit and other Western houses, and opened their Eastern tour at Keith's Bijou Theatre, Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 13.

ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, Dec. 15, there was given at the residence of Press Eldridge, the well known comedian, a most enjoyable musical and soiree dansante, the occasion being the birthday anniversary of the comedian's wife. The rooms were tastefully decorated with a profusion of flowers and ferns and made a beautiful picture. A large party of friends were assembled and were entertained by specialties by the Whitney Brothers, the Murray Brothers, Horace Golden, Prof. Fauger, Jas. Willard, Mabel Crocker and Press himself. The dancing and merriment were kept up till very early in the morning, and the refreshments, which came in for no small part of the guests' attention, were voted as good as could be found. At just 4 A. M. all hands joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne," and departed, declaring the affair a great success, and wishing their fair hostess many happy returns of the day.

WM. DE VERE'S NEW BOOK, "Jim Marshall's New Planner and other Western Stories," has certainly been launched in great shape by its publishers, M. Witmark & Sons. It has been favorably received in all parts of the States and over 100 letters of praise and endorsement have been received from prominent people, among whom are the following: John Ernest McCann, Herbert Kelcey, Julian Mitchell, Annie Yeamans, Malcolm Douglass, Jno. E. Warner, Edgar Selden, Chas. E. Evans, Theresa Vaughn, Fred Solomon, May Irwin, Otis Harlan, Della Fox, Denman Thompson, Louis Mann, Ullie Akerstrom, R. E. Graham, Jefferson De Angelis, Chas. Dickinson, Opie Read, John C. Freund, Geo. Taylor, Milton Nobles, Jesse J. Phillips, John Addison Porter, secretary to the President; Emanuel M. Friend, Chauncey Olcott, Aunt Louise Eldridge, Walker Whiteside, Lewis Morrison, McKee Rankin, Julia Arthur, Joseph Haworth, Chas. Hoyt, George Thatcher, Roland Reed, Dan Daly, Major J. B. Pond, Marshall P. Wilder, B. Russell Throckmorton, John H. Martin, Tony Pastor, Jos. Humphreys, R. A. Roberts, Palmer Cox and Victor Herbert. The newspapers are also favorably commenting on the book.

FRANK WHITMAN celebrated his nineteenth birthday Dec. 11, and was the recipient of many presents from his friends.

COLUMBUS MURRAY BEECH, youngest member of the Beech family, and son of the late Paul La Martine, has been dangerously ill with diphtheria at his home in Philadelphia, Pa.

THE HOLBROOKS closed a six weeks' engagement at Boston, Mass., and opened at Baltimore, Md., Dec 20.

PHILADELPHIA LODGE OF ELKS is making vast preparations for its twenty-seventh annual benefit, in aid of the charity fund, which is to be given at the Chestnut Street Opera House Thursday afternoon, Jan. 27, 1898. Every theatre in the Quaker City will be represented on this occasion, likewise several leading attractions from this city are promised. The programme will be of such gigantic proportions that it will require four hours to complete the entertainment.

THE THREE ALBIONS open at Butte, Mont., Dec. 20, for a tour of the Western houses

THE CRAIG TRIO were at the Olympic, Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 13-18, with Smith's Opera House, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Wonderland, Toledo, O., to follow.

AMONG the song features of the "Black Sheep" Co. are "Mammy's Little Pumpkin Colored Coons," by Hillma and Perrin; "Susie," and Horwitz and Bowers' new song, "I'm the Bosom Friend of Albert, Prince of Wales." "Mammy's Little Pumpkin Colored Coons" is also being featured by May Lowery, of the "Geezer" Co.

CLAYTON, JENKINS AND "JASPER" opened at the Empire Theatre, London, Eng., producing their satirical skit, "Darktown Circus," and were engaged to play all the leading continental cities after their engagement expires at above theatre.

THE DELFINOS are returning to New York from a South American trip.

MURRY AND MCCOY closed recently at the World's Theatre, Allegheny, Pa., where they have been seven weeks. They open at Keith's Philadelphia house Jan. 4.

AL. AND MAMIE ANDERSON are playing the Westminster Theatre, Providence, R. I., Dec. 20–25, with their new act, "Trouble in Coonville."

BILLY AND MADRID JACKSON open for two weeks at the Imperial Music Hall, Toledo, O., and have six weeks on the Orpheum circuit to follow.

SILBOR AND EMERSON sail for the City of Mexico, with Orrin Bros., for eight weeks, on Dec. 24, after which they play the Orpheum circuit.

JENNIE LAMONT and Prof. Alfonso are playing the New England circuit of museums.

EMMA WOOD is reported as making a hit with Ben Harney's new coon song, "I Love My Little Honey."

VALVO AND MARXELLE are playing a return date of two weeks at the Gem Theatre, Niagara Falls, and have Lockport and Syracuse to follow.

J. F. MORGAN, of the Tally Ho Trio, sang Paul Dresser's song "I Love You in the Same Old Way," at Brooklyn Music Hall, week of Dec. 13.

J. F. SULLIVAN, of Sullivan and Lester, will hereafter be known as Jay Francis Sullivan.

MADELINE BURDETTE writes the publisher, H. S. Gordon: "'Twas Only a Simple Ballad' is a lovely song, and I will try and make it a hit at Keith's this week. Imogene Comer sings the above song this week at Pastor's, and Queenie and Ed. Millner and Baby Blossom, with Bessie Morton Co., have it in their repertory.

THE TWO BEES, Harry and Flora Blake, send from England a unique card bearing the compliments of the season.

THE MAGINLEYS have just closed over the Moore circuit, and open Dec. 27 over the Castle circuit, then back again to the Keith circuit, opening Jan. 31 at the Union Square.

HARRY OVERTON, after a nine months' engagement with both Washburn's Circus and Minstrel Company, has returned to New York.

BENTHAM AND BYRNE, musical comedians, are with Gorton's Minstrels.

FRANK LEROY, female impersonator, lost all his wardrobe and music in the recent fire at West Superior, Wis. He will resume work in St. Louis, Mo., in January.

THE BLONDELLS tendered their notice and closed with Wm. Jerome's "A Jay in New York" Co. Dec. 11. They began playing a series of dates Dec. 13-18, at Tony Pastor's Theatre, this city, in their comedy sketch, "The Society Kids."

HATTIE STEWART and Tommie Gillen are playing the Canadian circuit, being this week at the Gaiety Theatre, Quebec. They open Jan. 10 at Tony Pastor's Theatre, this city.

JOHN G. MCDOWELL and Lillian Beach will be seen in a new act at the parks in the East next Summer.

THE THREE RENOS were at the Bijou Theatre, Worcester, Mass., last week. They are at the Bijou Theatre, North Adams, Mass., this week.

ISABELLE MCKINLEY is spending Christmas with her parents in Kalamazoo, Mich., for the first time in three years. She was the recipient of a diamond ring from some of her assistants at a late concert.

ED. LANG and the Gotham City Quartet played the Atlantic Garden, this city, last week. Ed. Lang takes out a comedy next season.

VIOLA SHELDON is reported as making a success in and around New York singing the descriptive hit, "Somebody's Sweetheart." Others who are making a "go" of this song are W. R. Williams (author), Annie Whitney, Josie Emory, Florence Clayton, Chas Falke and others.

"QUEEN OF SHINBONE ALLEY," as sung by Little Gertie Carlise, is one of the hits of Palmer Cox's Brownies Co.

DAINTY PEARLE HAIGHT, of the Sam Devere Co., now playing their third week in Chicago, has made an attractive feature of the new waltz song, "Sweet Nora Shannon." This is the song featured by the author, W. R. Williams, during his run at Pastor's Theatre.

THE PIANO PLAYER, MIKE BERNARD, at Pastor's, has turned out a catchy number in the stage march song, "Gloriana."

ANDREW MACK is singing "Life's Game of See Saw" in "An Irish Gentleman," at the Fourteenth Street Theatre, New York. Lydia Titus and Kittie Rampone are also introducing this song.

COLORADO.

Denver.—At the Tabor Grand Opera House, week of Dec. 13, Stuart Robson, in "The Henrietta" and "The Jucklins," played to the capacity of the house. Week of 19, Nellie McHenry.

BROADWAY.—Week of 12, the Boston Lyric Opera Co., in "Cavelleria Rusticana" and "The Pirates of Penzance." The company includes Clara Lane, Adelaide Norwood, Hattie Bell Ladd, Hattie Arnold, Laura Rudesill, J. K. Murray, Edgar Temple, Richie Ling, W. H. Clarke, Milton Aborn. They are doing a fine business. Week of 19, "Mikado."

LYCEUM.—For week of 12, "Side Tracked," with Jule Walters as the tramp, is doing a fair business.

ORPHEUM.—For week of 12, "Nuggett Nell," by the stock co. Lettie Le Vyne is quite an attraction [illegible] good.

MENTION.—"In Old Kentucky" played an extra night 12. The house was packed……Yale Glee and Banjo Club comes Dec. 31-Jan. 1……Elks Lodge memorial services at the Tabor Grand, on afternoon of Dec. 5, packed the house.

MISSOURI.

Kansas City.—The usual week before Xmas business went into effect here last week and all the attractions suffered. This week will, no doubt, be a repetition, with the exception of Christmas Day.

COATES' OPERA HOUSE.—Last week Thomas W. Keene, in "Richelieu," "Othello," "Hamlet," "Julius Cæsar," "Richard III," "Louis XI" and "Merchant of Venice" attracted fair gatherings of lovers of the legitimate. This week Nordica gives one concert on 20, and on 23-25 the Bostonians, in their newest. "The Serenade," with "Robin Hood" for a Christmas matinee bill. There is already a big demand for seats, and S. R. O. houses will be the rule. The following week "Secret Service," for the first time here.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Last week "Hogan's Alley" drew good attendance. Tiddlewinks and Johnnie Doogan, the two kid actors, were the hits of the performance, being the cleverest little performers ever seen here. This week the Irish will still celebrate, when Tom Nawn, in "Shantytown," will keep open house. The week following, "In Old Kentucky."

NINTH STREET THEATRE.—Last week "The Dazzler" drew very fair attendance. The show is quite an improvement over the previous year. Will West still carries the honors, ably assisted by Emil Heusel. This week "The White Squadron" will anchor here, and New Year's week Gus Hill's World of Novelties.

AUDITORIUM.—Business was good last week, although the Christmas shopping had some effect. The stock company put on "Wife for Wife," a repetition of one of its former successes, and "Too Much Tompkins." James Fulton, Ashley Rush and Will Davis made the hits. The specialties were George Austin, the Ahearns, the Kingsley Sisters and Amelia Glover, who dances as if she were hypnotized. This week the stock will put on "The Silver King," with specialties by the Olifans, Prof. Duncan and the Carney Sisters.

NEWMARKET.—Wilma, Tillie Collins, Joe Keaton, J. J. Clements.

PARADISE ALLEY.—Theo Larges, Mons. Anello, Young and Howard, Dayton Sisters.

CLIPPERINGS.—The boys ahead last week were Percy Weedon, with The Bostonians; George Harris, billing "Shantytown," and Jack Lodge, representing "The White Squadron."......The local Elks gave their annual charity benefit at the Coates on the afternoon of 17. All the attractions playing in the city kindly gave their services, and the result was an overwhelming financial success. Manager Judah was the chairman of the committee, which accounts for the result obtained......Helen Fox, wife of James J. Fulton, leading man of the Auditorium stock company, joined her husband here last week....The divorce suit of Alice Neilson vs. her husband, Benjamin Nentmig, will come up here Christmas week, when the Bostonians play here. She hopes to get her decree for a Xmas present.... It is probable that the Summer roof garden, which was in the original plans of the Auditorium, will at last be carried out. Mr. Fraser, the owner of the building, is figuring on the cost of turning the roof into a modern roof garden, and if it goes into effect Paxon & Burgess will put in specialties and opera companies......Ed. N. McDowell, advance representative of "Hogan's Alley" Co., and May E. Cunard, of the same company, announce their engagement. Their marriage will take place at the end of the season......F. P. Kohl, musician in the Grand Opera House orchestra, and Belle Jackson were married in this city on Nov. 23......Prof. Wheeler, director of the Grand Opera House orchestra, has arranged a clever paraphrase on "The Banks of the Wabash." It received three encores at every performance.

Springfield.—The Baldwin was fairly well filled night of Dec. 11, to see "The Burglar." The house will be dark until the 20th, when "The Dazzler" comes. Thos. W. Keene comes 24, 25, giving matinee 25, and A. Y. Pearson Stock Co. week of 27-Jan. 1.

MICHIGAN.

Detroit.—At the Empire Clay Clement comes Dec. 23-25, "Under the Red Robe" Dec. 27-Jan. 1. The first two nights of the past week Joseph Jefferson presented "Rip Van Winkle," "Cricket on the Hearth" and "Lend Me Five Shillings," to a select class of theatregoers. Herbert Kelcey and Effie Shannon, in "A Coat of Many Colors," a delightful comedy, ably presented by an individually strong cast, drew out very fair houses of the representative class Dec. 16-18.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—This week, "The McSorley Twins." Last week "The Isle of Champagne," with Richard Golden in the title role, uncorked fun to the limit, and hilarity reigned supreme during the entire engagement, which was a "corker" in the way of big attendance. Next week, Fanny Rice; then "Sowing the Wind."

WHITNEY'S GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—This week, "On the Yukon," formerly known as "Old Money Bags." Sam Morris still plays the title role, assisted by his clever little dog actor, "Nip." Last week Joe Flynn, in "McGinty the Sport," did a very good business. The show was excellent; the vaudeville talent clever and up to date. Next week, "Down in Dixie," then "The Woman in Black."

CAPITOL SQUARE THEATRE.—This week, Bryant & Watson's American Beauties. Last week "The Merry Widows" caught on at the start, but did not finish well. The show as a whole was not "crisp" enough to suit regular patrons of this free and easy resort. Next week, Rose Sydell's London Belles.

WONDERLAND THEATRE AND MUSEE.—Curio hall: Adelaide Rose, the female Sampson; Mart J. Weller, the one man band, and others. Theatre: Belle Black, the Armstrong Bros., Johnson, Riano and Bentley, Juno Salmo, and Mr. and Mrs. Robyns, in a dramatic sketch, entitled "The Council for the Defense."

Grand Rapids.—At Powers' Opera House Clay Clement, Dec. 17, 18, played to fair business. "Wizard of the Nile" comes 25, "Northern Lights" 27-29, Clay Clement (return engagement) Jan. 1, "Pudd'nhead Wilson" 4-6.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"McSorley's Twins," 16-18, played to standing room only. Coming, week 20, Go-Won-Go Mohawk.

SMITH'S OPERA HOUSE.—Week 20: Williamson and Stone, Harry and Fred Mayo, the Ley Roys, the Four Caroons, Perkins and Le Beau, and Sadie Busskirk.

Jackson.—At Wonderland week of Dec. 20: Theatre—McDonald Bros., Two Barretts and Chas. and Jennie Welch. In parlor: Signor Clark, juggler. Business shows a steady improvement. The management is endeavoring to give its patrons a good clean show, and their efforts are being appreciated.

Saginaw.—At the Academy of Music "The Span of Life," Dec. 16, played to good business. "Under the Red Robe" comes Christmas.

OREGON.

Portland.—At the Marquam Grand "A Milk White Flag" was presented Dec. 9-11, to good business. "At Gay Coney Island" comes 13-14, and Madame Scalchi 17-18. The Grau Opera Co. begins 20 a two weeks' engagement. The opening opera will be "Boccaccio," and the bill will be changed nightly.

CORDRAY'S THEATRE.—A vaudeville bill from the San Francisco Orpheum drew big business week of 5. The bill included Starkey and Rathbun, Farrell and Farrell, Baroness von Zieber, Orbasany's trained cockatoos, Kaiser Franz Josef's Magyar Husaren Knaben Kapelle and Morris' trained ponies. Proctor's Pleasure Party opened 12 in "Pleasure Valley," to a big house. The engagement will continue one week. The theatre will be dark week of 19. The next attraction is "The Pulse of New York."

IMPERIAL MUSIC HALL.—Lita Mather, Sadie Taylor, May Russell, Lillian Carroll, John Hallett, Nellie Healy, "Kid" Madden, Harry Sneider.

VILLA WHITNEY WHITE, of Chicago, gave two song recitals at the Auditorium Hall 10, 11. Miss White was assisted by Miss Mary B. Dillingham, of Chicago, accompanist. The hall was crowded each night.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Charleston.—Charleston celebrated her annual gala week Dec 13-18. At Owens' Academy of Music the Woodward Warren Co. played to big houses 14, 15, 16, 18. "Never Again" had a crowded house 14. "The Brownies" did well 17. "My Friend from India" comes 21, "A Stranger in New York" 24......V. D. Levitt's London Zoo and Crystal Maze continues to big business......W. D. Westlake's New Orleans Museum draws well......In consequence of an accident on the road "The Brownies" were prevented from giving matinee 17. No damage to company or effects.

— Geo. H. Bell has been playing Arnold Blaine, the heavy in "Joshua Simkins," for the past four weeks.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia.—The common ante-Christmas lull in theatrical business was felt here to some extent last week, the business generally being somewhat less than during the week before. During the current week several novelties are presented, notably E. S. Willard, as Tom Pinch; Chauncey Olcott, in "Sweet Inniscarra;" Vesta Tilley, new burlesques by Dumont's Minstrels and the first performances of the Standard Theatre Stock Company.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—There are no operas given this week. The fourth week commences Dec. 27, with "The Barber of Seville," with Melba as Rosina. "Die Meistersinger" will be given 29, "The Flying Dutchman" 31, and "Faust," at the matinee, Jan. 1. Last week "Carmen" and "Die Walkure" drew good houses. "Die Walkure" was an especially noteworty performance, the Brunnilde of Gadski making a profound impression. The Kneisel Quartet gives a concert in the foyer of the Academy Dec. 20, and the Lindsay course of lectures at the Academy begins 21, with a reading by F. Marion Crawford.

BROADWAY THEATRE.—E. S. Willard is here for a fortnight, appearing this week in "Tom Pinch" for the first time here. Last week E. H. Sothern concluded a very successful three weeks' engagement, the last two weeks being devoted to the new play, "The Adventures of Lady Ursula," which drew very steadily a well paying business. Next week Mr. Willard appears in "David Garrick" and other plays, not yet announced. Charles Frohman's Comedians, in "Never Again," Jan. 3.

CHESTNUT STREET OPERA HOUSE.—Frank Daniels, in "The Idol's Eye," holds over for the second week of his engagement. Large and delighted audiences laughed and applauded at the performances last week. Next week, last week of "The Idol's Eye." Julia Arthur Jan. 3.

CHESTNUT STREET THEATRE.—Ward and Vokes, in "The Governors," is the Christmas attraction at this house. Last week the Liliputians closed a successful two weeks' business. Next week, Klaw & Erlanger's production of "Jack and the Beanstalk."

WALNUT STREET THEATRE.—Chauncey Olcott comes for a week or two, appearing in his new play, "Sweet Inniscarra." Last week "The Belle of New York" drew crowded houses for the second and last week of its stay. Next attraction, Fanny Davenport.

PARK THEATRE.—"The Geisha" remains for Christmas week, the second of its engagement here. It is bright and attractive, and evidently struck a responsive chord in the hearts of our theatregoers, judging by the well pleased audiences that attended the performances last week. Next week, James A. Herne, in "Shore Acres."

AUDITORIUM.—The Vesta Tilley Co. is Manager Gilmore's offering for the current week. Last week the Rays, in "A Hot Old Time," elicited loud applause and roars of laughter from the large audiences that assembled in the theatre. Next week, "A Hired Girl."

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"Sinbad, or the Maid of Balsora," will be produced on Christmas afternoon in what is promised to be magnificent style. Until then the theatre will remain closed in order that an opportunity may be had for the preparation of the spectacle. There are to be specialties by Hattie Schell and a band of pickaninnies, Hughes and Smith, Mr. Maffin and the pantomimists, Fritz, Eddie and Leslie. Last week "Tar and Tartar" was well received and drew good sized audiences.

NATIONAL THEATRE.—"The Man o'-War's Man" is the current attraction. Last week "A Guilty Mother" had its first presentation in Philadelphia, and won an unqualified success as an unusually strong melodrama. Next week, Gilmore and Leonard, in "Hogan's Alley."

GIRARD AVENUE THEATRE.—Amy Lee, supported by the stock company, in "All the Comforts of Home," is the current production. Last week "The Great Metropolis" was produced in a manner which merited the hearty appreciation of the crowded houses that attend the performances. Next week, "The Two Orphans."

FOREPAUGH'S THEATRE.—"Unknown" is produced this week by request, and is acted by the always popular stock company. Last week "A Wife's Peril" was warmly applauded by audiences that filled the theatre in every part. Next week, "The Fatal Card."

ELEVENTH STREET OPERA HOUSE.—Dumont's Minstrels give two new burlesques this week, "Kriss Kringle's Visit" and "The Brownies' Circus." Presents and confectionery are given to the children attending. Business last week was good.

BIJOU.—The Christmas bill provided at this popular place of amusement includes: Charles T Ellis and Mrs. Ellis, in "Mrs. Hogan's Music Teacher;" Adolph Trio, Diana, Irene Franklin, William H. Wimdom, assisted by the Blackstone Quartet; the Todd Judge Family, Baldwin and Daly, Prof. Mapes, Hayes and Bandy, Morton and Elliott, Cooke and Clinton, the Wright Sisters, Hartzell and Burchin, the Harringtons and new scenes on the biograph. Well filled houses all last week.

PEOPLE'S THEATRE.—"The Cherry Pickers" holds the boards for the current week. Last week Lillian Lewis, in "For Love and Liberty," drew fairly well filled houses. Next week, "Sunshine of Paradise Alley."

STANDARD THEATRE.—"Lights o' London" is produced this week, to be played by the new stock company. The company includes John J. Farrell, Joseph Conyers, James R McCann, N. Sheldon Lewis, Eddie Abbott, Leigh McDowell, E. M. Leroy, Walter H. Stull, George Harris, Wilton J. Douglass, Richard Harris, Minnie Ratcliff, Lizzie Kendall, Flossie Loux, Laura Nelson Hall and Marie Leroy. Matinees are to be given every day, and the best seats are 50 cents. Last week "The Smugglers" drew fair sized audiences. Next week, "Shenandoah."

KENSINGTON THEATRE.—Irwin Bros.' Venetian Burlesquers is Manager Hart's offering for the current week. Last week the City Sports drew fairly good houses. Next week, Casino Operatic Burlesque.

LYCEUM.—The Rentz-Santley Burlesque Co. is the attraction for the current week. Last week the May Howard Co. had good patronage.

TROCADERO. Fred Rider's Moulin Rouge is the attraction for the current week. Last week Rider's New Night Owls crowded the theatre. Miaco's City Club next week.

NINTH AND ARCH MUSEUM.—In the curio hall this week will be found Mme. Pianka and her troupe of Nubian lions, Baby Kathleen, Big Ben, Mme. Harrison, and presents for every child attending during the week. The theatre programme is given by Mlle. Morello's trained spaniels, the Stanleys, Ada Dare, Mortimer and Darrell, Mascot, the equine marvel; Armstrong and Porter, Murray and Alden, and new local views on the cineograph. Large crowds attended last week.

NOTES.—Manager Nixon-Nirdlinger announces that, beginning Jan. 3, there will be a substantial reduction in prices at the People's Theatre. Reserved seats down stairs are to be 50 cents, and the balcony 25 cents......The Elks benefit, in aid of the Charity Fund, will be given at the Chestnut Street Opera House afternoon of Jan. 27. Attractions from all the theatres will be selected by the following committee of arrangements: Frank Dumont, Charles Fulmer, William W. Hincken, Frank Kelly, Henry Hosfeld, Thomas J. Dewees, John Jackson, Charles H. Yale, Frank Moran and Jule Keen......Joseph P. Armstrong, a talented young baritone of this city, has been engaged to appear with Steve Brodie's Co., on their coming appearance here.......“You, Benjamin” is the title of a new comic song, which Hughey Dougherty will sing at Dumont's Minstrels this week......It is announced that a new drama, "Straight from the Heart," is to be produced at the People's Jan. 3.......The Bijou and the Museum open at 9.30 Christmas morning......Charles T. Ellis, who appears at the Bijou this week, will have the pleasure of assisting his father and mother in celebrating their golden wedding in this city on Christmas Day.

Pittsburg.—Our theatregoers can divert themselves with two novelties this week—"At the French Ball," which Fanny Rice produces at the Duquesne Theatre, and "One Round of Pleasure," which Klaw & Erlanger present at the Alvin, both for the first time here.

ALVIN THEATRE.—"One Round of Pleasure" this week. "Secret Service," with Gillette as Capt. Thorne, his first appearance here in a serious role, closed a big week 18. Henry Miller presents "Heartsease" 27, for the first time here.

HARRY DAVIS' THEATRE.—"The Octoroon" is given by the dramatic stock company at the New Grand Opera House this week. The specialists at the Avenue are: Miller, winner of the recent six-days bicycle race in New York; Lillian Burkhardt, De Hollis and Valora, Moreland and Thompson, Shayne and Worden, Rice and Elmer, Garner and Ely, Racket Bros., Ed. Lang, Eddy Family, Jessie Millar, and Wm. Rowe.

BIJOU THEATRE.—Joseph Murphy, in repertory, this week. "A Hired Girl" closed a mirthful week 18. "The Cherry Pickers" will be next week's bill, that being its first production here.

DUQUESNE THEATRE.—Fanny Rice presents "At the French Ball" this week, for the first time here. "The Salt of the Earth" proved a very strong and original play last week. Theodore Babcock scored an immense hit as Tom May. "Under the Polar Star" is the attraction for New Year's week, when it will be given for the first time here.

HARRY WILLIAMS' ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Harry W. Williams' Own Co. is the current attraction. The Vaudeville Club did the usual large business at this house last week.

NEW WORLD'S MUSEE THEATRE.—Englehart & Raymond's Up to Date Vaudevilles and the Gaiety Burlesque Co. are the principal features for Christmas week.

SEMI TONES.—The Home Dramatic Club, assisted by talent from New York and Philadelphia, will shortly present a new musical extravaganza at one of our theatres for the benefit of the Homeopathic Hospital......Col. John D. Hopkins, lessee of the Duquesne Theatre, passed through here 18, in company with Dan Creedon, whom he backed in the latter's recent fight with "Kid" McCoy......Fifteen matinee theatre parties were given by society ladies at the New Grand and Avenue last week..... Miller, the bicycle champion, appearing at the Avenue this week, will be the recipient of many social attentions from local bicycle clubs during his stay here. He holds a reception at the Avenue after the night performance 20......Manager Harry Davis has placed a beautifully trimmed Christmas tree in the centre of the auditorium of his children's miniature theatre......Joseph B. Kohen, the Allegheny strong boy, left here 18 for New York, where he is to fill a five weeks' engagement at Proctor's Pleasure Palace, opening there 20......R. A. Roberts, general stage manager for Chas. Frohman, devoted himself to "The Salt of the Earth," at the Duquesne, last week, playing in the piece as well as directing it, and it showed a steady improvement from the first night, being constantly altered for the better. Hope Ross scored an immense hit at the Alvin last week in the ingenue role of Caroline Mitford, in "Secret Service."....Wm. Terriss, who was murdered in London 15, had played here with Henry Irving, and had many friends here, who deeply regret his loss...... The rumor that the Duquesne is to be transferred to Hayman, Klaw and Erlanger is not believed here, and it is impossible to trace it to any reliable source. Ed. F. Jackman, owner of the property, and others interested disclaim all knowledge of it. The Tri State Amusement Co., of which Col. John D. Hopkins is president, has a lease which has two years yet to run. Harry Davis made an arrangement with the Tri-State Company last Summer by which the Duquesne was to cease to be a vaudeville house, and by which the vaudeville bookings for his Avenue Theatre were to be made by the Tri-State Company, who then transformed the Duquesne into a combination house, and arranged with Hayman, Klaw and Erlanger to do its booking......The Welsh Prize Singers concertize in Carnegie Music Hall 20.

Scranton.—At the Lyceum Al. W. Martin's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co., Dec. 18, played to good business. Marie Wainwright, in "Shall We Forgive Her?" 25, matinee and evening.

ACADEMY.—Oliver Byron comes 23-25. Jno. L. Sullivan's Vaudeville Co., 16-18, came to good houses.

DAVIS' NICKELODEON.—The opening week was a pronounced success, the many friends of Manager Davis expressing their approval of the change by their attendance and expressions of delight. N. H. Brooke, the old time favorite, was welcomed as lecturer and assistant manager. Curio hall: Sidney Winman, Mons. Forber, Seth Hathaway, Eddie Thorn. Theatre: Mudge and Morton, Martine, Price and Watsson, and Vivian Wood, St. Julian.

Easton.—At the Able Opera House the Spooners did a large business Dec. 6-11. "The Devil's Auction" had a fair house 14. "Miss Brevity" had light house 17. George H. Adams did fair business 18. Henshaw and Ten Broeck come 21, "Miss Philadelphia" 25, "Eight Bells" 28.

WONDERLAND THEATRE continues to do a nice business. The City Sports come 20-22, London Gaiety Girls 23-25, Sam Jack's Tenderloin Co. 27-29.

Altoona.—At the Eleventh Avenue Opera House the Rogers-Grilley Recitals drew a large audience Dec. 15. "For Fair Virginia" had full house 17. Watson's Vaudevilles come 24, "A Boy Wanted" 25, Agnes Herndon 27 and week, "Tracked by a Newspaper" Jan. 3, James Young 6, Lillian Kennedy 8.

NEW MOUNTAIN CITY THEATRE.—The attendance was good week of 13. Harry Pierson's Minstrels come 23-25, Emma Sardou's Repertory Company week of 27.

Erie.—At Park Opera House Donnelly and Girard, Dec. 13 appeared to good attendance. "Shore Acres," 14, was favored with a large house, and gave the best satisfaction. Joseph Jefferson, in "Rip Van Winkle," 17, played to a packed house at advanced prices. Mr. Jefferson closed his season at Albany, N. Y., 18, and goes direct to his plantation in Louisiana for the Winter months....... "Banda Rossa" comes 20. Harry J. Fellows has just returned from his engagement with the Johnson Bishop Concert Company, closing at Tacoma, Wash.. Mrs. Bishop being too ill to continue their tour. All subsequent engagements had to be canceled. Mrs. Bishop goes to California to recuperate her health......A. H. Knoll and Maria McNeal have returned home to Erie for a short rest.

Lancaster.—At the Fulton Opera House Waite's Comedy Co. closed a very successful two weeks' engagement Dec. 18. Morrison's "Faust" is due 21, "Lost, a Bride," 25.

LOUISIANA.

New Orleans.—With the approach of the holidays theatrical matters have livened up to a great extent, and as all our refugees have returned to their accustomed spheres, this city has taken on its holiday appearance, which is in marked contrast to the dismal outlook of a few weeks past. New Orleans is as gay as ever, and visitors are pouring into our city by the car loads, all of which go to swell the box receipts at our various theatres and cause our managers to wear a smile as broad as a good sized rainbow.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Otis Skinner, in his new romantic comedy, "Prince Rudolph," has been filling the house at every performance since he opened, Dec. 12. The play is admirably suited to Mr. Skinner, and he heightens the success of its production by keeping in his company actors of acknowledged ability, who afford him the very best support. Dec. 25, "Miss Francis of Yale;" Dec. 26-Jan. 1, Leon and Adelaide Herrmann.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—"The Geisha" has been affording the patrons of this house considerable amusement for the past week, and is looked upon as one of the head comic operas that has appeared here in many a day. In leaving this city it carries with it not only the stamp of our approval, but (as its treasurer will acknowledge) many another, more substantial stamp as well. Dec. 19-25, Richards & Pringle's Georgia Minstrels; 26-Jan 10, "In Gay New York."

ST. CHARLES THEATRE.—Lewis Morrison made his bow to his numerous friends in this city Dec. 12, and, as usual, succeeded in drawing a big house. On Monday night, when he laid aside for a while the crimson wardrobe and appeared in his new play, "The Master of Ceremonies," he received quite an ovation from his many admirers, who were anxious to see him in a new role. Coming: 19-25, De Wolf Hopper; 26-Jan. 1, Lillian Lewis, in "For Liberty and Love."

UTAH.

Salt Lake City.—The Salt Lake Theatre will be dark until Jan. 8.

NEW GRAND THEATRE.—The Home Dramatic Co., in "Hamlet," played to large and appreciative audiences Dec. 10 and 11. No booking until January.

NOTES.—The Lyceum Theatre is again closed indefinitely, owing to the sudden departure of Manager A. W. Duncan, who left for parts unknown Dec. 11, taking with him the box receipts for week of 6 and without paying salaries. It is claimed the debts involved would not exceed $300, and could have been easily met......A. W. Duncan is the son of Ed. W. Duncan, cashier of the National Bank of the Republic. This is the seventh time the Lyceum has succumbed......The people playing the house at the time were: Sullivan and Gaynell, Sid. Baxter, Prof. Montague, Lunar Bros., Janett Willard, Andy and Flora McKee, Musical Fletcher, Lane and Lawn, M. Baggie......The McKees left for San Francisco 13. The others remain, but not from choice......The stranded members of the company will be given a benefit 16. Besides the members considerable local talent will assist in the performance. Sullivan and Gaynell will go to Butte, Mont., the others to San Francisco.

— Mme. Herrmann and Herrmann III are now touring Texas with reported success. They gave no performance Dec. 17, the anniversary of the death of Herrmann the Great, out of respect to his memory. They play the Grand Opera House, New Orleans, La., New Year week.

CONNECTICUT.

New Haven.—In consequence of decidedly inclement weather the business fell off somewhat during the past week, but on the whole the volume of business done was good. Big business is anticipated during the holiday season, and all the local managers have secured unusually strong attractions.

HYPERION.—Francis Wilson came Dec. 13, and was greeted by an audience which filled all the space in this commodious theatre. He was honored with a curtain call after each act, and at the close of the opera was compelled to respond to demands for a speech. "Never Again" played a return engagement 17, 18, and enjoyed big financial returns. Anthony Hope comes 20, Dorothy Morton, in "Miss Brevity of Hong Kong," 21; William H. Crane, in "A Virginia Courtship," 25; Sousa's Opera Co. in his new opera, "The Bride Elect," 28-30; George Edwardes' Gaiety Co., in "In Town," 31-Jan. 1. This will be this company's last appearance in America, as it sails for England Jan. 5.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"Always on Time" enjoyed fair business Dec. 13-15, while Dan McCarthy and company, in "The Dear Irish Home," tested the capacity of the house 16-18. Jermon's "Black Crook" comes 20-22, "The Real Widow Brown" 23-25, "The White Slave" 27, 28, "Under the Dome" 29, 30, Kate Claxton, in "The Two Orphans," Jan. 3-5; the Gormans 6-8

POLI'S WONDERLAND THEATRE.—Standing room only was the result at every performance last week, and several times it became necessary to close the doors and refuse admission. This week: The biograph (second week), Sam and Kittie Morton, Clara Louise Morton, Post and Clinton, Murray Brothers, Three Sisters Helston, George Lavender, Ada Tomson, Charles Mackie, Ben Walker and Jerome and Alexis.

NOTES.—Manager G. B. Bunnell, of the Hyperion Theatre, has moved from his delightful Summer home in Southport for this season, and opened up his Winter residence in this city......Among the advance men in this city during the past week were: Thomas Nemack, representing W. H. Crane, and T. H. Hinton, in advance of Sousa's new opera, "The Bride Elect."......Manager S. J. Poli's new theatre in Waterbury was opened 15, with great eclat, when a party of over one hundred personal friends of Mr. Poli went from this city in a special train to attend the opening, which was most auspicious. ......Gus Miller, late of the Barnum & Bailey forces, is now looking after the advertising department of G. B. Bunnell's enterprises.

Hartford.—At Parson's Theatre Jack Mason and Marion Manola presented their very pretty play, "Friend Fritz," to light but well pleased houses Dec. 17, 18. "A Matter of Money," a curtain raiser, by Mr. Mason, was tried at one performance, with good results. The closing of "The First Born" left the house dark 13, 14. Much disappointment was felt at the inability of the Francis Wilson Co. to present "Half a King" 16. Manager Parsons received a telegram from Mr. Wilson from Waterbury, where he opened Poli's new theatre 15, saying that a severe hoarseness forced his temporary retirement and the canceling of his Hartford, Springfield and Worcester dates. A large advance sale was refunded. Dr. Fridjtof Nansen, 15, vividly described his wonderful experiences in the Polar regions to an enthusiastically interested assemblage that nearly filled the house. "Other People's Money" comes 20, 21, "The Telephone Girl" 23, 24, "Never Again" 25, "Gayest Manhattan" 27, Wm. H. Crane" 28, Joseph Holland, in "The Mysterious Mr. Bugle," 29; "The Devil's Auction" 30, "The Bride Elect" 31, Jan. 1.

HARTFORD OPERA HOUSE.—Jermon's "Black Crook" Co. played a profitable engagement of three nights and two matinees Dec. 16-18. Cole & Johnson's "Trip to Chinatown" Co. pleased a full house 13, but fared badly the succeeding night, owing to the inclement weather. Dan McCarthy played to good returns 15. "Always on Time" comes 20-22, "Cuba's Vow" 24-25, Katie Rooney 27-28, Rose Hill's Burlesquers 29-30, Billy Barry, in "The Rising Generation," 31, Jan. 1.

MONTANA.

Butte.—Maguire's Opera House was dark the first three nights of last week. "Lost, Strayed or Stolen" came 16-18.

UNION THEATRE.—"The Gay Matinee Girl" is doing a land office business, the S. R. O. sign being displayed nightly. Next week, the Sutton Stock Co., in "Pocahontas." Christmas week Adgie's lions will be featured.

CASINO.—J. H. Fielding has resumed his old position of assistant manager of this house, and he and Manager Kinney are putting up a great show. The people this week are Mollie Thompson, Crissie Dale, Esther Pierce, Harry De Armo, E. J. Holden, Grace Howard, Frank Rice, Frankie Bell, Lamore Sisters, Walter Reed, Maud Martelle, Madeline, E. F. Nannary, Hattie Verdier, W. R. Lee, Ida Miller, E. Weiner, and Brown and Dovey. The drama this week is "The Kentucky Derby," by the Casino Stock Co.

MONOGRAM.—Ella Hearne, Ed. and Nellie La Rose, Ada Hastings, Chas. Burton, May Walton, McCarthy and Williams, Fred C. Smith, Lynch Sisters, the Dezelles, Wm. Snyder and Wm. Keppler.

IMPERIAL.—Ritchie and Lund are giving a good show at this resort, the following people taking part: Rita Haines, Florence Peasnall, Jessie and Annie Reed, George Harrison, May Lillian, H. P. Clifford, Ruth Hastings, Larry E. Lund, Emma Bell, Sherwood and Meredith, Minnie Fanchetti, Norris and King, Nadine Allen, Maly, Sir Bobbie Carrigan and Boviere and Seymour.

NOTES.—"The Pulse of New York" turned people away every night week of 6, at Sutton's Theatre, Anaconda......Norman McGregor joins Sutton's Butte Stock 20......Emma Whitney made her first appearance since the terrible stage coach injury she received two months ago, week of 6, at Sutton's Theatre, Anaconda......Manager Dick P. Sutton now has two stock companies, one at Butte, the other at Anaconda. The latter is composed of the following people: J. C. Carpenter, business manager; Mrs. D. P. Sutton, treasurer; Billy Le Compt, stage manager; L. C. Henderson and Babette Pine, leads; Emma Whitney, character; Lulu Sutton, soubrette; D. P. Bowers and D. Edson.

KENTUCKY.

Louisville.—At Macauley's Theatre Julia Marlowe produced "For Bonnie Prince Charlie," "Romeo and Juliet," "Ingomar" and "As You Like It," to crowded houses last week. At the close of the second act of "For Bonnie Prince Charlie," 13, Miss Marlowe was given a tremendous round of applause as the curtain fell. The applause was continued until it was raised again. As it was being lowered the second time an elegant bouquet of American beauty roses was thrown on the stage from the gallery. The curtain was again raised, when Miss Marlowe secured the flowers, and, looking up to the gallery, bowed her thanks to the gods for their approval of her effort to please. Miss Marlowe is to be congratulated for this incident, as it is the first time in the history of the house that such appreciation has been shown any actress by the critics in the gallery. "The Nancy Hanks" week of 20, American debut of Ludie and Lilla Harris with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra Jan. 6.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Ward and Vokes, in "The Two Governors," attracted immense audiences at every performance last week. The greatest hit made during the engagement was by Johnny Page. For week of 20 Katie Emmett, in "The Waifs of New York."

TEMPLE THEATRE.—"Our Disreputable Ancestors," a new play, written by Edmund Day, one of the members of the Meffert Stock Co., and played for the first time on any stage, Dec. 13, was a success both artistically and financially. "A Scrap of Paper" is the bill for week of 20.

AUDITORIUM.—Yale Glee and Banjo Club 25, Banda Rossa 27.

NEW BUCKINGHAM.—New York Stars and Steve Brodie Comedy Company attracted good audiences all last week. Night of 17, the rounds of the McCoy-Creedon fight were read from the stage. Merry Maidens Burlesque Co. week of 19.

COLISEUM THEATRE.—McShane and Reagan, the Seven Fords, De Mora Sisters, the Mullenberg Sisters.

OLYMPIA THEATRE.—Brown and Diamond, Louise Ford, the Hennings Trio, Dick Wild and stock.

GEM THEATRE.—Chas. and Kitty Mack, Birdie Clayton, Florence Ruth, Pearl Manifold, Mattie Givens, Mabel Parker, Jack Perkins, Will Hughes, Chas. Casey and stock.

BIEROD'S CONCERT HALL.—The Ellis, Gracie Cleveland, Marshall Parker, Geo. F. Ames and stock.

CALIFORNIA.

Los Angeles.—The Los Angeles Theatre held good sized audiences for the Corbett-Fitzsimmons veriscope exhibition, 6-8. The Scalchi concert performance packed the house 9 and did fairly well 10. Lew Johnson's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" did poorly 11. Following a week of "In Gay New York," which closes 18, comes "Ole Olsen" 19-21, Fontanas 22-25, Louis James 27-29 and "Milk White Flag" 30-Jan. 1.

BURBANK THEATRE.—"Hands Across the Sea" drew poorly week ending 12. "Across the Potomac" 13-19, with a reappearance of Katie Pearson.

ORPHEUM.—Business continues good, Caroline Hull leading the bill in popular favor week ending 12. Features 13: Stanley and Jackson, Clemence Trio, O. K. Sato, Harry Edson and his dog "Doc," Fred Brown, Caroline Hull, Fordyce and the biograph.

TEXAS.

Houston.—At Sweeney & Coombs' Opera House Corbett and Fitzsimmons' Vitascope Co., Dec. 10, 11, had three well filled houses. Creston Clarke and Adelaide Prince came 16, to a magnificent business. The Manhattan Stock Co. comes 17-22, "In Gay New York" 23.

TURNER HALL.—A. W. Hawks had a fair house 16.

PALACE THEATRE.—Business excellent. For 12-18: Beaumont Claxton, Nellie Benson. George and Amy Gilbert, Anna Rinaldi, Grayson Sisters, Alice Arlington, Ernest Bailey, Joe Irwin, Bessie Sernon, O. Berti, Dan Russell, John Swor, Maude Stowe, Will Wilson, Pauline Blossom, Rose Button and Blanche Lea.

MASCOT THEATRE.—Business good. For 12-18: Tom Kelly Charles Gates, May Gates, Maggie Carpenter, the Johnsons, Billy Wolf, Dan Powers, Lillie Ellsworth, Minnie Allen, Ed. Young, Katie and Lulu Holmes, S. J. Paul, Gus Milner and Prof. Rogers.

THE INTERNATIONAL VAUDEVILLE CO. disbanded 11, after five weeks of good business......Stowe Brothers' International Show had a big crowd 16, at the Baseball Park......Norris Brothers' Dog and Pony Show began a week's engagement 13, at Bremond's Square, to immense crowds.

San Antonio.—At the Grand Opera House, Dec. 11, 12, "Human Hearts." For the week beginning Dec. 13, Holmes-Woolford Co., at popular prices, to big business. Dec. 22, "In Gay New York."

BELLA UNION.—For the week beginning 13: The Moncayos, Tillie Morton, Nettie Swan, Maggie Walsh, Pete and Allie Elmo, Hennie Barnes. Opening 20: Mons. Kinsner, Beverly Sisters, John Morton, Sadie Glade.

WASHINGTON THEATRE.—Week of 13: Geo. Milton, Jack McGreevy, Howard Sisters, Esther Russell, Birdie Fay, Etta Howard, Monroe Meyer, Aman and Clark. Opening 20: McNeil Sisters, Gertie La Tour, the Revellas, Collins and Donnelly.

Galveston.—At the Grand Opera House Leon and Adelaide Herrmann drew a good sized and appreciative audience Dec. 8. The Manhattan Stock Company, at popular prices, opened an eight day engagement 9, to a packed house.

NIEMEYER'S MASCOT THEATRE.—New faces week of 13: Fae McDuffie, Nora Castelan and Carmenetta Castelan. The stock company will present Jack Mack's black face comedy, "Telephone." Business continues big.

NORRIS BROTHERS' DOG AND PONY SHOW closed a week's stay 11, to good business.

Austin.—At Hancock's Opera House Creston Clarke came to good business, with excellent company, Dec. 10. Edwin Travis, in "A Jolly Night," did well 11. "Human Hearts" came 13.

NEW YORK CITY.

Last Week's Events.—There were several changes of attractions last week, and two works, new to this city, were presented, but neither of them proved to be of great importance. The near approach of the Christmas holidays, and the attractiveness of gayly decorated stores, had its usual injurious effect upon theatrical business, but, under the circumstances, business was quite satisfactory. ......The continued attractions for the week ending Dec. 18 were: John Drew at the EMPIRE, Maude Adams at the GARRICK, Nat C. Goodwin at the KNICKERBOCKER, "The Princess and the Butterfly" at the LYCEUM, "The French Maid" at the HERALD SQUARE, "A Stranger in New York" at HOYT'S, "The White Heather" at the ACADEMY OF MUSIC, May Irwin at the BIJOU, Andrew Mack at the FOURTEENTH STREET, the stock company at DALY'S, Doris' Winter Circus, the stock company at the MURRAY HILL, Mme. Viarda at the FIFTH AVENUE, and "My Boys" at the MANHATTAN, the two last named having closed upon that date. ......The one week stands closing Dec. 18 were: "Chimmie Fadden" at the STAR, Charles Leonard Fletcher at the PEOPLE'S, George W. Monroe at the GRAND OPERA HOUSE, "Darkest America" at the THIRD AVENUE, the Empire Stock Co. at the HARLEM OPERA HOUSE, "On the Bowery" at the COLUMBUS, and "The Man-o' Wars Man" at the METROPOLIS......Variety entertainment was furnished at TONY PASTOR'S, the UNION SQUARE, KOSTER & BIAL'S, PROCTOR'S, WEBER & FIELDS', PROCTOR'S PLEASURE PALACE, the LONDON, the OLYMPIC, the HARLEM MUSIC HALL, and MINER'S BOWERY and EIGHTH AVENUE......Opera in German continued at the IRVING PLACE, performances in that language were given at the GERMANIA, and performances in Hebrew at the THALIA and WINDSOR......At the BROADWAY THEATRE, on Dec. 13, the new Broadway Theatre Opera Company made its first appearance in this city, and gave the first metropolitan presentation of "The Highwayman," a comic opera, in three acts, music by Reginald De Koven and book by Harry B. Smith. The work proved to be entertaining, and seems to have a fair chance of success......"A Ward of France," a play, in a prologue and four acts, by Franklin Fyles and Eugene W. Presbrey, had its first presentation in this city at WALLACK'S on Dec. 13. It made a favorable impression, but was thought to be rather too melo dramatic for a Broadway house......An organization styled the Madison Square Opera Co., but which was formerly known as the Boston Lyric Co., made its first metropolitan appearance Dec. 13, at the GARDEN THEATRE, when it began a brief engagement, with "Faust" as its initial offering...... Mme. Alexandra Viarda, for the third and last week of her engagement at the FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, changed her bill and presented "Deborah," the German original of "Leah, the Forsaken." She again delivered her lines in German, while her support used only the English tongue. She was surrounded by practically a new company, her principal support being E. J. Henley. She again failed to give any indication that she is an actress of experience, as claimed by her manager. Mr. Henley made on Wednesday night, prior to the beginning of the fourth act, a demand that some guarantee be given him for the payment of the week's salary, and as this was refused him he promptly retired from the cast. This action necessitated the cutting out of the entire fourth act and the first scene of the fifth act. Clifford Pembroke succeeded him in the role......A benefit performance, in aid of Leon J. Vincent, was given at the MANHATTAN THEATRE afternoon of Dec. 16.

THE PROFESSIONAL WOMAN'S LEAGUE held its annual Christmas bazar Dec. 16-18, at the Waldorf-Astoria, the proceeds, which were of good proportions, going to aid in the philanthropic work of the league.

MRS. ANN ROONEY, aged sixty years, died Dec. 7, during the performance at Wallack's Theatre, of heart failure.

VICTOR HERBERT has signed contracts to furnish concerts at Manhattan Beach next season. His Twenty-second Regiment Band will then succeed Sousa.

JULIA MARLOWE will begin an engagement at the Knickerbocker Theatre on Jan. 3, in "As You Like It." During that engagement she will present a new work, which has not yet been given a title, and she will also stage other Shakespearean plays.

RHODA CAMERON, who retired from the Lyceum Theatre company two years ago, has again signed with Daniel Frohman for that company.

THE MADISON SQUARE OPERA CO., managed by S. A. Stevenson, closed prematurely Dec. 18, at the Garden Theatre, this city, and disbanded. Salaries are alleged to have been unpaid, and other financial difficulties are said to have caused the closing.

THE MURRAY HILL THEATRE is closed temporarily, but will reopen Christmas Day, when the stock company will resume, presenting "A Fair Rebel."

KEITH'S UNION SQUARE THEATRE.—Some of the best performers in the variety and dramatic profession spend Christmas here. To neither class can be charged Gautier's horses, but their second week's entertainment seemed to please greatly. and the Santa Claus pictures projected by the American biograph (its forty ninth week) were likewise appreciated and roundly applauded. Odell Williams' condensed version of "The Judge" was productive of laughs a plenty, but the hit of the bill fell to Hayes and Lytton, who then began a fortnight of travesty. Two better exponents of burlesque drama would be hard to find, and in "Ingomar" each shines brilliantly. Miss Lytton interests all in the story of "The Belles," given as an encore, and Mr. Hayes does excellent acting in the carrying out of the thrilling dramatic narrative. James Thornton monologued his way to striking success, and the singing of Witter Peabody further added to the downright worthiness of the bill. Evelyn Britton, a young woman in strong favor here, returned to scenes of former success, and repeated her hit. She is a good singer, and adds much to the show in the way of clever entertainment. Al. Leech and the Three Rosebuds repeated Joe Hart's cleverly contrived sketch with much attendant appreciation. To Mabel Stillman and Carl O'Dell fell an abundance of applause, and the entertaining bill was satisfactorily rounded out by Bogart and O'Brien, the Tanakas, T. Nelson Downs, De Bessell and Madeline Burdette. Right from Kansas City came the Hale Sisters, and their singing and dancing act made them welcome. They are clever disciples of Terpsichore and sing with agreeable voice, and should come to favor in this section. M. Rudinoff began his second and last week a deservedly favorite holdover. Hayes and Lytton remain to present bright travesty next week, and Joe Hart will entertain in a sketch of his own making. Ethel Kendal will also add her vocal efforts to the bill.

CASINO.—The bright, entertaining little musical comedy, "The Belle of New York," which enjoyed a very successful production at this house when first presented to New Yorkers, returned here on Monday evening, Dec. 20, to spend Christmas week with its former well pleased patrons, many of whom were present to bid the merry, sparkling attraction a holiday welcome. The leading members of the company were given a cheery reception and they did their best to prove that the cordiality of the welcome was fully appreciated. The indications point to a week of prosperous business, which is certainly well deserved. "The Telephone Girl" will be seen here on Monday evening 27.

IRVING PLACE THEATRE.—"Die Einzige" (The Only One), a comedy, in three acts, by M. Petzold, was presented for the first time in New York Dec. 20. It is a pathetic home play, in which the black sheep of a family, through continuous draughts on the purse of his father and mother, causes the financial ruin of his father and his discharge from a position. His mother dies of apoplexy, and finally the only one who sticks to the old man is his daughter, a teacher, who gives up the young man she loves because of his refusal to entertain the father at their home after marriage. Anna Braga was good, as usual, as Louise, the good daughter. Others in the cast were: Emil Marx, Wilhelmine Schlueter, Camilla Marbach, Michael Pichon, Bernhard Vorwerk, Georg Le Bret, Carl Fisher. The same evening was presented Franz V. Suppe's "Die Schoene Galathe," in one act. It was well sung by Jean Felix, Milla Barry, Edmund Hanno and Hanna Wrada. Julie Kopacsy will appear Dec 23 in "Die Lachtaube."

PROCTOR'S PLEASURE PALACE.—An audience that comfortably filled the auditorium of Proctor's pretty uptown resort on Monday, Dec. 20, were amply repaid for braving the inclement weather by the good things provided by Manager Price, included in which were Alice Atherton and her artistic monologue and laughing song, the humor of which was irresistibly infectious. Barney Fagan and Henrietta Byron, in "Idle Fancy," sang and danced themselves into favor. O'Brien and Havel in "The Newsboy's Courtship," made friends. Joseph F. Kohen, a strong boy, made his local debut in an exhibition of muscular power and bag punching, to the delight of the audience. Edwin Latell, musical comedian, was a popular number. Conroy and McDonald, Irish comedians, did well. The Willett & Thorne Comedy Co., in "An Uptown Flat," succeeded in evoking hearty laughter. Other successful entertainers on the lengthy bill were: Charles J. Stine and Ollie Evans, in "A Frisky Doctor;" Wm. F. Judge, in a ladder act; the Bartolettics (Dick and Emilia), in comedy dancing; John R. Harty, as an eccentric juggling waiter; Forbes and Doyle, in a specialty of dancing, and Lamore Busch, as "The Golden Vampire." Christmas will be celebrated here by an early opening at noon, and a continuous performance running until 11 P. M.

KOSTER & BIAL'S.—In both size and enthusiasm the audience on Dec. 20 was of a satisfactory nature, and the general quality of the entertainment provided was most gratifying. Anna Held began her seventh and final week fully as potent an attraction as when she entered upon her engagement here, and her personal magnetism and the aid rendered her in her final song, the negro comic, brought her unquestionably the cream of the evening's plaudits. Juan A. Caicedo executed his effective wire act to the time of an almost continual hand clapping accompaniment, and Madge Ellis can assuredly be credited with making a decided success, as she could reasonably have held the stage for a much longer period, had she so desired. Adelman and Lowe offered their xylophone solos very creditably. Albert A. Guille, tenor soloist, sang most acceptably, and Pablo Diaz introduced a contortion act on the flying rings that was accorded a generous meed of approval, both for its merit and its novelty. The De Kock Troupe brought all their feats to a successful issue, and were reluctantly permitted to withdraw, while Robbins trick bicyclist; Daisy Mayer, and Charmion, the trapeze performer, shared in the favor which was so cordially given. Jessie, a babboon somersault rider, made a fairly good impression.

DORIS' WINTER CIRCUS, although giving evidence of suffering from the business depression attendant upon the holiday season, is apparently holding its ground, and what the audience, night of Dec. 20, lacked in size it made up in enthusiasm. The bill is retained at the standard that has been in vogue since the opening, and four new features that are well calculated to stimulate interest are added to the programme this week. Botus, in hand balancing, is a newcomer, and contributed an act that scored right well, while the Earle Sisters, who were twice listed upon the bill, impressed the audience most favorably in each instance. A brother act and a troupe of leaping dogs were new here as well, and the holdover features gave ample justification for their retention.

LOUIS C. WEMYSS, doorman of Wallack's Theatre, is seriously ill.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—"The White Heather," now in the fifth week of its run at this house, is an attraction that should prove of especial interest during the holiday season, because, in addition to its absorbing story, it is full of pictorial embellishment and appeals strongly to all lovers of spectacular drama.

WALLACK'S.—"A Ward of France" began on Dec. 20 the second week of its engagement. It is claimed that it played to satisfactory business last week. Maurice Barrymore was out of the cast Monday night on account of illness. His role was filled by Stephen Wright.

HOYT'S THEATRE.—"A Stranger in New York" began on Dec. 20 the seventh week and the last fortnight of a profitable engagement at this house. It will be followed Jan. 3 by Ward and Vokes, in "The Governors."

LYCEUM THEATRE.—"The Princess and the Butterfly" began on Dec. 20 the fifth week of its run. It is playing to satisfactory business, but the company has been unfortunate because of the illness of some of its members. At present Mr. Hackett is seriously ill, and his place is being filled by William Courtleigh.

HERALD SQUARE THEATRE.—"The French Maid" began on Dec. 20 the thirteenth week of its run, and, at the same time celebrated the one hundredth performance by the presentation of souvenirs. The business is still large. Adele Archer has taken the place of Anna Robinson in the cast.

NUGENT'S SUNDAY CONCERTS.—The performers who entertained a big house at the Star Theatre, Dec. 19 were Hodges and Launchmere, Arthur Rigby, Merri Osborne, Vera Dore, Wood and Sheppard, Bonnie Thornton, Robert Hilliard, Marie Avary and Cawthorne and Forrest.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.—This house was dark Dec. 20, pending the production of "A Royal Box," announced for the following evening.

TONY PASTOR'S THEATRE.—The talents of Al. Filson and Lee Errol outshine anything else on this week's bill, and their hit Dec. 20 was extraordinarily big. Geo. M. Cohan's little sketch, "A Tip on the Derby," offers abundant scope for their abilities and drives dull cares a kiting. Imogene Comer's songs went straight to the mark, and the audience returned an appreciative volume of applause. To the talented Nichols Sisters came strong approval, and little Leola Mitchell was duly rewarded for her excellent entertaining abilities. Tony Pastor was heard in a good list of comic songs and bright parodies, and the resulting applause must have convinced him that he is still the favorite of old. The Spencer Brothers, Irish character vocalists; Barnet, Foy and Creed, in a boxing act; Burke and Andrus, comedians; Edward and Josie Evans, in a juvenile sketch; Clayton and Allen, musical comedians; Albertus and Weston, club swingers; Van Leer and Barton, comedians, and Walton and Doyle, grotesques, rounded out the bill to the evident satisfaction of all concerned. The house was filled to the standing room limit, as usual, and all hands seemed pleased with the entire show. Next week, Johnstone Bennett heads the list, Geo. Leslie assisting; Gus Williams, Canfield and Carleton and other favorites being also scheduled to amuse.

PROCTOR'S THEATRE.—An evidence of the potency of the present week's offering was furnished on Dec. 20, when the combined forces of disagreeable weather and holiday influences failed to overcome the attractiveness of the bill, which scored a triumph in the contest, and brought to this house many devotees of the continuous vaudeville. Helene Mora was undoubtedly wearied at the conclusion of her act, so persistently was her singing encored and redemanded; but the satisfaction felt at her reception beyond doubt more than counterbalanced any physical strain put upon her. McIntyre and Heath were also generously remembered by the audience in their distribution of favors, and seldom have this team more thoroughly merited praise than upon this occasion. Charles R. Sweet merits a word of commendation; Mat Farnum danced with sufficient agility to commend him to the applause givers; the five Castilians came to the fore with an act entitled "A Game of Wits," which appeared to take hold; Chas. Seamon rendered a good account of himself, and the Three Angela Sisters furnished an act that was exceedingly entertaining, and proved worthy of the cordial reception given it. The following performers, though no less deserving of individual summing up, are not given special mention through lack of space: Mlle Meza, contortionist; Barrett and Learned, in a comedy sketch; Reuch and Kennedy, in acrobatic songs and dances; Street Arab Sextet, the Randalles, Williams and Walker, and Deaves' Marionettes. The living pictures are still continued. For the coming week a bill of exceptional merit will contain Auguste Van Biene, Pete Baker and others.

STAR THEATRE.—Where melodrama, opera and farce comedy usually reign vaudeville of the truly right sort holds sway for Dec. 20–25. Business Manager E. J. Nugent is sponsor for the show, and the good sized opening audience seemed well pleased with the selections he has made. Josephine Sabel's vocalisms, loud enough to stir the entire population of old Greenwich village, shines as the bright star of the bill, with Jennie Yeamans and Smith and Campbell close seconds. Harry Watson and Alice Hutchings, assisted by Ed. Edwards, were cordially received, and Delmore and Lee's perilous aerial act went well with all beholders. Animal entertainers are represented by Bella Hathaway's dogs and Jim Key, a horse excellently well trained, and specialties by Al Stern, the Deltorelli Bros. and the Two Dons round out the show. There is an abundance of comedy, and the Christmas dinners of Manager Nugent's patrons will consequently be well digested. Next week, "Miss Philadelphia."

PEOPLE'S THEATRE.—Manager Sheldon is giving his patrons a revival of pantomime for a Christmas present, the George H. Adams Co. being engaged to present "Protecto," with George H. Adams as the clown and James R. Adams the sprite, opening Dec. 20. The usual pantomime comic features, spectacular display and a large chorus are in evidence Geo. H. and James R. display their acrobatic tendencies to good advantage. Tonina Adams played the fairy queen. The rest of the cast was as follows: Old One, Edward O'Connell; Dr. Faust, John F. Raymond; Little Bo Peep, Lillie Adams; Bright Eyes, Beckey Taylor; Little Red Riding Hood, Rosina Cooke; Satanic, Ernest G. Adams; Spero, Jean Howard; Pongo, Charles O'Brien; Miss Prim, Rebecca Morgan; Miss Knowitt, Mamie Morgan; Policeman, Richard Mack. R. G. Lane is manager, Edward Coombes, business manager; Jas. R. Adams, stage manager; Prof. Gluck, musical director. The house has been decorated with flags and floral designs for the holidays by Mr. Sheldon. Next week, Lincoln J. Carter's "The Fast Mail."

THIRD AVENUE THEATRE.—"Sunshine of Paradise Alley," a series of four pictures of life in New York, is the attraction this week, and drew a fair house Monday evening, Dec. 20. Mrs. Charles Peters was Widow McNally, the good natured mother of "the sunshine," Nellie. Ellen Mortimer played this role charmingly. Others in the cast were John Walsh, John D. Griffin, Ben D Ryer, Thomas E. Clifford, H. E. Chase, James B. Bradley, H. W Frillman, Donald Harold, May Thompson, Phila May, Leslie Guerney, Helen Guerney and John J. Flynn. Comedy and pathos is mingled in this production, and the specialties introduced by John Walsh, Thomas E. Clifford Lottie Faust and John J. Flynn were heartily applauded. George W. Ryan is manager, Louis Miller, representative; H. E. Chase, stage manager. Next week, "The Great Diamond Robbery."

MINER'S BOWERY THEATRE.—The Knickerbockers, Louis Robie's sterling organization, which for amount of comedy presented during its opening and closing scenes, as well as for merit of the intermediate display of vaudeville talent, is easily among the best, are playing a return date this week, opening Dec. 20. Regarding the value of each individual member as entertainers, little remains to be said. Charles H. Burke is a star Hebrew, and his partner is John B. Wills. All the numbers of the first part are thoroughly up to date, and deserve praise, especially the Knickerbocker Gavotte, a charming number. Margaret Rosa, with new songs; John B and Estelle Wills, Edna Aug, in her Anna Held imitation and several new selections; Aleene and LaRue, the lively singers and acrobatic dancers, and M. S. Whallen, the comedy genius, formed a series of bright acts. "Wise Mike," with its several seasonings, proved to be the usual "scream," the Burke Brothers being most ludicrous in their quaint comedy. Next week, Flynn & Sheridan's Big Sensation.

HUBER'S MUSEUM.—For the ante-holiday entertainment of patrons Manager Anderson furnishes excellent attractions in both curio hall and upon the stage. The hunger of Helen Coppage must by this time be distracting, providing she has gone without even a ham sandwich for two weeks, as stated. She still lives, however, a monument to what a woman can do and the envy of those who through ordinary desire fast not, and those who perforce go without victuals because of its scarcity in their cupboards. On the stage and in other departments of the curio hall the entertainment is by no means as skimp as the rations the young woman claims as her portion.

GARRICK THEATRE.—Maude Adams, in "The Little Minister," now in the seventh week of her engagement at this house, is still playing to S. R. O. business. The one hundredth performance is announced for Dec. 22, and will be made a souvenir occasion.

BROADWAY THEATRE.—"The Highwayman," which was first presented at this house last week, has met with considerable favor, and it is claimed that the audiences thus far have been of almost record breaking size.

KNICKERBOCKER THEATRE.—Nat C. Goodwin, in "An American Citizen," entered on Dec. 20 upon the tenth week and the last fortnight of the most successful engagement he has ever played in this city. He will return to this house next season. Julia Marlowe comes Jan. 3.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—John Drew, in "A Marriage of Convenience," entered on Dec. 20 upon the seventh week and the last fortnight of his stay. He is still doing an excellent business, and could no doubt remain here with profit for many weeks; but the stock company is booked to open the regular Winter season of the house on Jan. 3, and Mr. Drew has to go on tour. He will return, however, in the Spring, and will then present some new plays.

WEBER & FIELDS' MUSIC HALL.—A rarity here is the house that is merely well filled, for the record of "Pousse Cafe," which entered upon its fourth week Dec. 20, shows nothing but a succession of overflowing audiences since it first took possession, and that this merry concoction will continue to alleviate the effects of dull care at this place for a long time to come seems not improbable. In fact its evidences of longevity are such that, should it eclipse the best previous record ever made by a predecessor, it would be a matter of little surprise. Changes are being made continually, and invariably where such have occurred they have tended to still further brighten the entertainmnt. The specialty features for this week are: The La Velles, a pair of worthy singers and dancers, who opened the bill most satisfactorily; Gus Bruno, in his characteristic offering, and Pauline Hall, whose singing, always so enjoyable in the past, still retains its attractiveness. Bessie Clayton gave her dances during the performance of the burlesque, and received in recognition a hearty tribute to her ability.

LONDON THEATRE.—Gorgeous, indeed, is the term that must be applied to the stage setting that is revealed at the rise of the curtain on the first scene of "Madam May's First Night," presented by the City Club Co., which opened to two good houses Monday, Dec. 20. Since the opening of the season no changes have been made by Manager Miaco in the personnel of the company, but many improvements are noticeable in the quality of the entertainment furnished. Fanny Everett looked as imposing as ever, and sang and acted with her usual vigor. Carrie Fulton, Mazie Burton and the other ladies in the cast displayed their costumes and ability to best advantage. Phil McFarland, Dave Conroy and Bert Leslie made the comedy stand out well. Louisa King may be mentioned as the impersonator of a voluptuous statue. The specialties include Anna Lonnborg, descriptive vocalist; Conroy and McFarland, in Hibernian pleasantries; Lew Palmer, mimic and comedian; Bert Leslie and Carrie Fulton, in a bright act; Dick and Kittie Kumins, in a comedy sketch, and Baker and St. John, in an acrobatic comedy act, full of surprising moves by Mr. Baker. "The Countryman's Dream," with Fanny Everett as the Parson, and the other members in genial roles, closed the show in good style and was full of fun. Next week, Rice & Barton's Gaiety Co.

EIGHTH AVENUE THEATRE.—There's much to enjoy in the performance given by Flynn & Sheridan's Big Sensation, which began a week's engagement Dec. 20. In the first place Ada Henry heads the show. She lays undisputed claim to the title of "The Noblest Roman of them All," and if there should happen to be other Romans, it is evident that they are not in the burlesque business. Secondly, the show which supports her is in all ways amusing and thoroughly up to now, and although seen here for the first time this season, its former reputation served to fill the house. Those who could get in on Monday evening were entertained right royally, and there could be no doubt but what all were satisfied. Starting the amusement, the entire company appeared in an entertaining first part and an olio of more than ordinary merit followed. Mamie Dillon and Flossie Hughes, Bert Marion and Billy Pearl, May Bohee and Sherman Coates, Lina and Vini, and the Golden Gate Quartet entertained excellently, and a very prettily costumed and well executed song and dance rounded out a clever variety offering. Ada Henry led the burlesquers in "A Swift Chase," and, being a pretty speedy burlesquer herself, the audience was entertained after the most approved burlesque fashion. All 'round considered, Flynn and Sheridan present a show which is worthy of more than passing consideration. Next week, Irwin Brothers' Burlesquers.

BIJOU THEATRE.—May Irwin's sixth week of her present engagement was begun Dec. 20, with "The Swell Miss Fitzwell" still as eagerly courted by theatregoers as she has been at any time since her charms first found recognition here.

MANHATTAN THEATRE.—The first presentation of "The Ballet Girl," announced for Dec. 20, was postponed until the following night, leaving the house dark upon the first mentioned date.

Harlem.—At the Harlem Opera House Julia Arthur, in "A Lady of Quality," came for a week's stay, and, judging from the opening night, stands a first class chance of duplicating the success achieved at a down town house. Manager Blumenthal reports that the demand for seats surpasses everything so far this season. Next week, Chas. Frohman's Co., in "Never Again."

HARLEM MUSIC HALL.—Business was of the best throughout the past week, and the bill presented for this week should please the most of the patrons of this popular house. The opening Dec. 20 was all that could be desired, the boxes and lower part of the house being filled. The week's bill includes Lottie Evans and Harry Mills, Louise Royce and Josie Intrepidi, the World's Trio, Florence Moore, Ben Harvey, Paterson Bros., the Three Leonards, George McLeman and the actroscope.

COLUMBUS.—"On the Bowery" played to poor houses all of last week. It is not the style of show that the people in this section will patronize, as events proved. "When London Sleeps" opened to a good house, considering that the holidays are so near, and met with a warm reception and will, without doubt, pack this theatre later in the week. Manager Jack Kahn reports that in the future none but the best attractions obtainable will be offered. Next week, "In the Heart of the Klondike."

METROPOLIS.—The reduction in prices seemed to have been a wise move, as the business during the past week improved considerably. The attraction for this week is the "Two Little Vagrants," this being this company's second appearance at this house this season, and should they duplicate the business of their former engagement they will have no cause for complaint. The opening 20 made the prospects look bright. Next week, "Chimmie Fadden."

OLYMPIC.—Rice & Barton's Big Gaiety Spectacular Extravaganza Co. made their first Harlem appearance this season to a good sized house, and every indication points to a prosperous week, as the show is entirely different from the usual run of burlesque companies. The scenery and costumes are up to date in every respect and the company met with a warm reception. Frankie Hanna, Rice and Barton, and Hattie Mills worked hard toward the evening's success, and the audience was not slow to appreciate their efforts, and in consequence gave them a royal welcome. The company as a whole deserve credit for their hard work. Next week, Mlle. Ani's Monarchs.

HARLEM MUSEUM.—This place is doing a good business and as this is the only place of its kind in his part of the city it should be packed at every performance. The attractions for the week are the Helstons, Laura Contwell, Venetta and Lynch, Lee's Food Show, Prof. King, Takezawas troupe of Japanese, Mons. Drage and cinematograph.

NEW YORK STATE.

Brooklyn.—The week preceding Christmas is never very encouraging for the theatrical manager, and, while the current attractions are of sufficient strength to command attention, nothing more than the usual ante-Christmas business is looked for. Richard Mansfield is at the Montauk, and will present repertory. A large and appreciative audience greeted him on his opening night Dec. 20, when he began his engagement here in his latest success, "The Devil's Disciple." The same bill will be given Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and Christmas matinee. Wednesday matinee and Christmas evening, "Beau Brummell." Thursday evening, "A Parisian Romance," and Friday evening, "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." Next week, "Cumberland, '61."

BIJOU.—Gilmore and Leonard opened a week's engagement here 20, in "Hogan's Alley," before a large audience. The play has been rewritten and freshened since last seen here. The specialties are good, and the efforts of Tony Murphy, Eddie O'Dell, William Hagan, Mazie King, Carrie Rose, Nina Shirley, Gladys Arnold, Alice Leslie, Maud and Alice Le Page, Bernardine Dale and Constance Lefevre. Next week, George W. Monroe.

COLUMBIA.—"Under the Red Robe" is the attraction for two weeks, opening 20, to a large audience. The piece was seen here earlier in the season, and met with such financial success that it was deemed advisable to bring it here again. The piece is well acted, and has a deep and interesting plot.

PARK.—The excellent stock company at this house has revived "Uncle Tom's Cabin" upon an elaborate scale. Two large audiences witnessed the afternoon and evening performances 20. Henrietta Crossman, as Eliza, was excellent, as was Howell Hansel, as George Harris. Maggie Harold, as Aunt Ophelia, and William Davidge, as Phineas Fletcher, were given parts that they were entirely at home in, and they gave entire satisfaction. Daisy Lovering, as Topsy, is about the best seen since Mrs. Howard's time. G. W. Larsen, as Uncle Tom; Thomas Ross, as Marks; Edward Esmond, as Legree and St. Clair, and Anna Layng, as Mrs. St. Clair, were all highly satisfactory. Director Huffman's scenic effects were grand, and as elaborate as any of his former productions.

GRAND.—"Cap'ain Impudence," while not entirely new, has not been seen in Brooklyn before this week. It is a very amusing comedy, there being three love stories running through the plot. It is one of Edwin Royle's successes, a romance of the Mexican war, in which both Mr. and Mrs. Royle appear. A large audience was present on the opening night, 20. The scenery and costumes are fine. Next week, Ward and Vokes, in "The Governors."

HYDE & BEHMAN'S.—The managers of this house, who have the faculty of getting the best, have an extra attraction for Christmas week, and two immense audiences witnessed the afternoon and evening performances given 20. At the head of the bill is Elizabeth Lawrence, who sang several songs so bewitchingly that she was repeatedly encored. The others on the bill are: Eugene O'Rourke, assisted by Alice Holbrook, in a comedy, "After the French Ball;" Thomas J. Ryan and Mary Richfield, in an Irish sketch; T. W. Eckert and Emma Berg, in "Master and Pupil," a sketch with songs; Dick, Dick and Dickey, in an acrobatic comedy; Mazuz and Mazet, in "The Tramp and the Brakeman;" Polk and Kollins, a banjo team; Golden, a humorous wizard; Gruett, Beers and Gruett, grotesque acrobats, and Nestor and Bennett, in an electric specialty.

STAR.—Manager Bissell has an entirely new burlesque in "Miss New York Jr." for his patrons this week. Two audiences that appropriated every bit of standing room witnessed the afternoon and evening performances 20. The opening piece shows the interior of a woman's club, as such things are understood on the burlesque stage, and the fun is fast and furious. The closing piece is called "Little Queen of Egypt," and in it Harry Le Clair impersonates Cleopatra, and Jack Crawford Mark Antony. The olio is given by Harry Le Clair, in a sketch; M. Florence Edward, in a fire dance; Crawford and Manning, black face comedians; William and Ida Morello, with their dog, Bob, in acrobatic feats; Gordon and Scanlon, "Irish Aristocrats;" Arthur Rigby, in songs and dances; Sierra Nevada Farrington, in songs, and Marie De Rosett, gun manipulator.

AMPHION.—The company, headed by Joseph Holland, which has made famous that clever farce, "The Mysterious Mr. Bugle," is Manager Ottolengui's Christmas offering. Despite the inclement weather night of 20 there was a fair sized audience present. A curtain raiser, called "Two Chums," preceded the farce. Good business last week. The following attraction: Roland Reed, in "A Man of Ideas."

GAYETY.—"Straight from the Heart," a play of scenic completeness, having four acts and nine scenes, began a week's stay here night of 20. The company, which is a competent one, received the applause of a large audience on the opening night. Big houses last week. Coming week of 27, "Capt. Impudence."

EMPIRE.—"The Gay Masqueraders," a travesty aggregation, presenting "The Sporty Widows," as well as a good olio bill, began a week's stay 20. The olio: Cal. Weston, with laughing songs; Mason and Healy, in funnyisms; the Clark Sisters, in songs and dances; Baker and Lynn, in a Dutch comedy sketch; Lorenze and Allen, songs and dances; Prof. Nick Brown, and Lydia Carmelle, cornettist. The closing farce comedy burlesque is called "A Jay at Coney Island, or the Female Bathers." The opening house was large. Most satisfactory business last week. Next week's attraction is the Moulin Rouge Extravaganza Co.

UNIQUE.—An excellently arranged bill is given by a house company this week. The list includes Lang and Sharp, with a sketch, "A Book Agent;" Ada B. Downie, songs and dances; the Daily Brothers, Irish comedians; the Davenport Sisters, songs and dances; Francis Bryant, monologues; the Two Gleasons, Bryant and Cleaver, singers, and Bonnie Thornton, in songs and witticisms. Good business last week. Coming week of 27, the Watson Sisters' Burlesquers.

BROOKLYN MUSIC HALL.—Manager Howard presents an exceptionally attractive bill as his holiday attraction. The list includes Frank Bush, in Hebrew specialties; Minnie Schult, with operatic selections; Howard and Edwards, in their sketch, "My Uncle's Visit;" C. W. Littlefield, styled America's star entertainer; Bentley and Cameron, musical comedy artists, in a sketch called "Willie Wants to Smoke;" the La Moyne Brothers, horizontal bar grotesques, and Pinga. Business continues satisfactory.

AMERICAN.—Lincoln J. Carter's newest play, "Under the Dome," opened a week's engagement 20, to a fair house. Good business last week. The underline for week of 27 is "The Heart of Chicago."

LYCEUM.—William H. Rightmier's four act domestic drama, "The Two Wanderers," is given this week by the Louis Frey Stock Company. Considering the disagreeable weather night of 20, the audience was of goodly proportions. Good business last week. Next week the stock company will essay "The Silver King."

Albany.—Notwithstanding the interest taken in outside holiday attractions, the theatres all did an excellent business during last week. Harmanus Theatre presented "What Happened to Jones" on Wednesday, Dec. 15, for the benefit of the charity fund of the local lodge of Elks, and people turned out in great numbers to contribute. The play was well received and thoroughly enjoyed by a packed house. Saturday evening, 18, Joseph Jefferson appeared in "The Cricket on the Hearth" and "Lend Me Five Shillings," to the evident delight of one of the largest audiences of the season. After many recalls Mr. Jefferson favored the audience with a characteristic speech between the acts. William H. Crane, in "A Virginia Courtship," comes 24, and Primrose & West's Minstrels are down for two performances Christmas Day, 25.

THE LELAND OPERA HOUSE did a land office business, with the Waite Opera Co. as the drawing magnet, all last week. "Paul Jones," "Boccaccio," "Olivette," "The Mascot" and "The Mikado" were sung, to the approval of uniform large audiences daily and nightly. Long Bros.' Pawnee Bill Co., in "Madeline of Fort Reno," is billed for 20–22, and Joe Ott, in "The Star Gazer," 23–25. Clara Morris and a strong vaudeville company is the booking for 27 and week.

THE GAIETY THEATRE again pleased its many patrons by offering a very satisfactory entertainment all last week by the Broadway Burlesquers. Gilbert and Goldie, Emma Carus, the Dunbar Sisters, McAvoy and May, and the Judges, all came in for big applause, and the burlesque, "A Paris Girl in Saratoga," was above the average as a laugh provoker. The attendance kept up all the week, and as a consequence business was good. The Bon Ton Burlesquers came 20 and week, to be followed by the Manhattan Club Burlesquers 27 and week.

Buffalo.—At the Star Theatre "The Sign of the Cross" appears all Christmas week. Cissy Fitzgerald, in "The Foundling," Dec. 27–29. Fanny Rice last week was as piquant and winning as ever, but the attendance was poor. Wm. H. Crane fared nicely in "A Virginia Courtship." Robert G. Ingersoll will deliver his new lecture Jan. 9.

MUSIC HALL.—The stock company will appear in "Uncle Tom's Cabin" 24, 25. Union College Glee Club appeared 20. Banda Rossa met with well deserved success.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Gonzalez Opera Co. this week. Marie Wainwright, in "Shall We Forgive Her?" next week. "The Land of the Living" fared nicely last week.

COURT STREET THEATRE.—Scribner's Columbian Burlesquers, together with Kid McCoy, Lydia Yeamans-Titus and F. J. Titus seem to own the town this week. John L. Sullivan's Co. next week. Manager Barnes' Rose Sydell Co. proved a winner last week.

NOTES.—Architect George J. Metzger is preparing plans for extensive alterations in the Casino Summer Theatre, which is to be opened about Feb. 1, by Michael Shea, who will conduct it as a high class vaudeville home similar to his popular institution of former days......It is also quite probable that the old Academy site will soon have a museum and continuous performance plant thereon.

Rochester.—The Lyceum Theatre had Wm. H. Crane, in his new play, "A Virginia Courtship," as the opener for the week, playing for two nights, Dec. 20, 21. The house will be dark 22. For the latter half of the week, including Christmas Day, "Jack and the Beanstalk" will be the attraction. James Young left 18, playing to fair houses. Coming for week of 27, "The Sign of the Cross," and Daly's Company, in "Number Nine."

COOK OPERA HOUSE gave its patrons the Broadway Burlesquers 20, to remain for three nights, and to be followed by "Madeline of Fort Reno" for the last three nights of the week. "Who is Who" and "The Star Gazer" played to good houses last week. For week of 27, Thos. E. Shea, in "Man-o'-War's Man."

ACADEMY OF MUSIC presented "Side Tracked" 20, to play for the entire week. Last week "Town Topics" and The Manhattan Club received fair patronage. For the entire week of 27, N. S. Wood.

WONDERLAND THEATRE.—The programme for this week is made up of the following vaudeville entertainers: Sharp and Flatt, musical comedy team; Barton and Ashley, Three Original Ronaldos, Ray L. Royce, Lloyd and Lillian Langdon and W. W. Ellis. A change of pictures is announced on the cinematographe. Good business is the rule here.

Syracuse.—At Wieting Opera House Charles Coghlan drew well, presenting "A Royal Box" 13, 14. Dixey, magician, had large attendance 15. Stowe & Co.'s "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co. had large business 18. Booked: "Jack and the Beanstalk" 20–22, "A Stranger in New York" 24, 25, Augustin Daly's Co. 28, 29.

BASTABLE THEATRE.—James Young, to good business, 13–15. "A Breezy Time" had light attendance 16–18. Billed: John L. Sullivan's Vaudevilles 24, 25. Ysaye, violinist, 31.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"A Railroad Ticket" did well 13–15. "Who is Who" pleased audiences of fair proportions 16–18. To come: Manhattan Club Burlesque Co. 20–22, Broadway Burlesquers 23–25.

THE BASTABLE THEATRE changes management Jan. 1, 1898, Sam Subert succeeding Frank D. Hennessy.

Troy.—At the Griswold Opera House "The Wolves of New York" played to top heavy houses Dec. 13–15. "The Great Train Robbery" drew big houses 16–18. Corse Payton, in repertory, comes 20, for the week.

RAND'S OPERA HOUSE.—"What Happened to Jones" played to standing room only 13, 14. Richard Mansfield, in "Beau Brummell," drew a big house 17. "The Walking Delegate" came 20. W. H. Crane, in "A Virginia Courtship," 23; Henry Miller, in "Heartsease," 25.

GAIETY THEATRE.—The Bon Ton Burlesquers drew big houses all last week. The Rossow Midget Company came 20, for the week: a return date.

Binghamton.—At Stone Opera House Agnes Herndon, in repertory, drew excellent business Dec. 13–18. "The Devil's Auction" comes 21, John L. Sullivan 23, Al. W. Martin's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Co. 25.

BIJOU THEATRE.—"Old Money Bags" drew fair business 13–15. Watson Sisters' Burlesquers had good attendance 16–18. Dec. 20–22, J. J. Magee, in "Out of Sight;" 23–25, Sheridan & Flynn's "City Sports."

Newburg.—At the Academy of Music Hoyt and McKee's Comedy Co., Otis Harlan leading, is due Dec. 21, in "A Stranger in New York." "Chimmie Fadden" is due Christmas day and evening, and both promise to do well. Richard Mansfield pleased one of the largest and most fashionable audiences ever assembled here 14, presenting "Beau Brummell." Long Bro's. Pawnee Bill and May Lillie followed 17, in "Madeline of Fort Reno," testing the full capacity of the balcony and gallery, but otherwise the house was light. Green's Comedy Co. is underlined for Christmas week.

Geneva.—At the Smith Opera House "A Gay New Yorker" failed to please a fair sized audience Dec. 15. Joe Ott, in "The Star Gazer," comes Dec. 20; Stetson's "U. T. C." Co. 23, Hoyt L. Conarey 29, "Wang" 30, "Blue Jeans" 31.

Middletown.—At the Casino "Out of Sight," Dec. 17, came to fair business. "Priscilla" was presented by local talent 13, 14. "The Devil's Auction" comes 20, Gotthold's Vaudevilles 25, Dorothy Morton 27.

TENNESSEE.

Memphis.—At the Grand Opera House, after an absence of eight years, Modjeska, supported by an able company, came Dec. 13, 14, but the business done was not such that the strength of the attraction would warrant. A local amateur minstrel company, under the name of Emerson's Minstrels, occupied the house night of 15, and were well patronized. Darkness reigned 17, 18, as "The Widow Jones" canceled. Sipe, Dollman & Blake's trained animals drew fairly well 9–11. "The Geisha" comes 20–22, Lewis Morrison 25, DeWolf Hopper 27, 28, "Hogan's Alley" 30–Jan. 1.

NEW LYCEUM THEATRE.—Tim Murphy opened to a big house, in "Old Innocence," Dec. 16, for three nights and a matinee. Otis Skinner drew fair sized audiences 9–11, and was well received. Walker Whiteside comes 24, 25, "Human Hearts 27–29, "Mme. Sans Gene" 31, Jan. 1.

AUDITORIUM.—"The Prodigal Father" was presented 13–15 in a manner that was highly acceptable, with Lynn Welch in the leading role, and a support in which each member was entitled to a share of praise for the success of the entertainment. Daniel A. Kelly, in repertory, comes 20–25. One of Sam T. Jack's companies will occupy the boards 3–Jan. 1.

PEOPLE'S THEATRE.—This place was opened on 13 by Harry Walker, late proprietor of the Colliseum and Theatre Comique, of Kansas City, but formerly of Memphis, and the then owner of the old Zoo Zoo Theatre, which has since been condemned and torn down. The building is on Adams Street, between Main and Second, and was recently a hotel, with saloon, occupying all of the ground floor. The house will be run as a vaudeville resort, with the wine room adjunct. The following people are billed for this and week of 20: Mlle. Victor Lee, John Coburn, Nellie Fuller, Fly and Mylie, Aimee Louise, Minnie Cusick, and Coburn and Hall.

Nashville.—At the Grand Opera House Daniel Kelly, in "The Outcasts of a Great City," did fairly well Dec. 13–15. "The Prodigal Father," 17, 18, had very large houses in spite of rain and sleet. They play a return engagement after the holidays and will undoubtedly have large business. The house will be dark 20–25. "Mme. Sans Gene" 27, 28. Walker Whiteside is booked for the Vendome 29, 30.

MASONIC THEATRE.—Billed: Lillian Lewis 20, 21, "The Geisha" 24, 25, De Wolf Hopper 29.

J. E. CAHILL'S MIDWINTER CIRCUS AND TRAINED Animal Exhibition began, 13, a protracted engagement at Amusement Hall, on Broad Street. Their exhibition is a good one of its kind, and their first week was successful financially.

ALABAMA.

Mobile.—At the Mobile Theatre Tim Murphy, in "Old Innocence," Dec. 13, came to good business. "My Friend from India," 14, had fair business. Richard & Pringle's Minstrels, 17, had top heavy houses. De Wolf Hopper, in "El Capitan," Dec. 18, enjoyed splendid business. Peters & Green's Comedy Co. 20–25.

PRINCESS THEATRE.—The Alabama Minstrels, a local organization, composed of twenty blacks and about ten whites, under the management of S. C. Lyons, played to poor business 15. Their idea was to take the road, which has been abandoned.

ADVANCE CAR No. 1 of the Great Wallace Shows is here, and the men are papering the city for the performances, which will take place 27.

Birmingham.—The Baldwin-Melville Co., Dec. 13, 14, gave four performances, to good business, and were followed by Tim Murphy 15, with business which was lighter than the performance warranted. De Wolf Hopper, in "El Capitan," played the capacity of the house, at advanced prices, 16. An incident not on the programme took place just before the company left next day. J. J. Jaxon, a member of the company, had a dispute over his hotel bill, and came to blows with the hotel proprietor. The latter looked up an officer, and had Mr. Jaxon arrested on the train, just as it was moving off. As court was in session, he was carried before the Judge, and was fined $5, which was promptly paid. In the meantime the train was held, and Mr. Jaxon was enabled to join the company. "Miss Frances of Yale" drew a light audience 17; "My Friend from India," 18, on account of inclement weather, had light attendance, but there was no lack of enthusiasm from those who attended. Coming: Arnold-Wells 20–25, Otis Skinner 28, veriscope 29, "When London Sleeps" 30, "A Jolly Night" Jan. 1, "In Gay New York" 4, Robert Downing 5, Roland Reed 7.

Selma.—At the Academy of Music Polk Miller, supported by Oscar Sissons and Esther Wallace, played to fair business night of Dec. 13. Miss Wallace received a telegraph announcing the death of her grandfather, which was delivered to her after the performance, The veriscope, presenting the Corbett-Fitzsimmons' fight, night of 16, did very poor business. "My Friend from India" played to full house 17. Booked: Lewis Morrison, in "Faust," 21. Sipe and Dolman's dog and pony show will give one performance 23.

MASSACHUSETTS.—(See Page 705.)

Taunton.—At the New Theatre the Katie Rooney Co. came 13, to a small house. "Psyche," a dramatic and musical spectacle, was presented by local talent 16, 17, to big business. Manager Harrington has arranged for an afternoon and an evening performance of "Psyche" for Christmas Day.

Vaudeville and Minstrel

HENRY FREY, stage manager of Rossow Midget's Specialty Co., writes as follows: "Week of Dec. 6 we played the Lowell (Mass.) Opera House, to standing room only, and everybody is well and happy. On Wednesday, 8, the Rob Roy Club, comprising nearly the entire Co., tendered a reception and dinner to Stanley Whiting, who was playing Keith's Boston Theatre. Mr. Whiting arrived in Lowell at 11.20 P. M. He was received by our worthy president, McLeod, who, arrayed in full kilts, lead a file of fifes side by side with a line of drums led by Pop Carr. Then followed the male members of the co. and some fifty members of Lowell Lodge of Elks, No. 87, acting as an escort to Mr. Whiting, who occupied a landau and brought up the rear. A permit having been obtained from the chief of police, the procession took its way and, illuminated by red fire at every corner, finally halted at the rooms of the Elks, which had been tendered for the occasion. After two hours of hilarity, we then adjourned to the Arlington House, where Boniface Halloran served such an excellent collation and made himself so popular that he was elected a member. The party broke up at daybreak."

MELROSE AND ELMER have just closed four weeks in New York, Philadelphia, Wilkesbarre and Scranton, and are spending Christmas week at their home in Brooklyn, N. Y.

WILLIAMS AND MELBURN last week, while playing Music Hall, New Brunswick, entertained the Elks at their lodge rooms and were tendered a supper by Manager Taylor after the performance.

CHAS. AND JENNIE WELSH are at Wonderland, Jackson, Mich., Christmas week.

WILLIAM MITCHELL and Ed. Sharpley, late of "On the Bowery" Co., will in the future work together.

MAY YALE and Nellie St. Clair have joined hands.

JOHN LE CLAIR introduced his act at the Avenue Theatre, Pittsburg, Pa., last week.

JESSIE MILLAR is reported to be making a decided hit at the Avenue Theatre, Pittsburg, Pa., this week. She was obliged to postpone her engagement over the Orpheum circuit for the present, owing to the severe illness of a member of the family.

MAY GOLDEN, of the Golden Trio, has recovered a judgment in the City Court, through M. Strassman, as her attorney, against Frank Logan, manager of the May Howard Company, for the sum of $490 for money loaned.

THE PATROL QUARTET are still with Hi Henry's Minstrels, doing their new act, "Coontown Guards," in the olio.

NAT FRANKLIN informs us that his trunk, containing his instruments and wardrobe, was stolen from Mrs. Taylor's boarding house Dec. 18.

THE THREE MORELLO BROS. are at Keith's Theatre, Boston, Mass., this week.

GRIFFIN AND COWPER are appearing this week at the Bijou Theatre, Worcester, Mass.

A DEAL has been consummated between F. V. Dunn, proprietor of the Palace Theatre, Boston, Mass., and F. E. Samuels, formerly of the Eighth Avenue Museum, New York, by which Mr. Samuels has taken the lease from Mr. Dunn and is now the sole proprietor of the Nickelodeon. He is now making radical changes in both curio hall and stage, and has for an assistant John N. Genin.

PEGGY PRYDE sailed for South Africa Dec. 4. She is announced to appear in America in the Spring of 1899.

LOGAN PAUL, Edgar MacGregor and Charles Bowser will do a sketch in the vaudeville.

WILL H. BRUNO and Gracie Thurston have joined hands, and are in stock at the Northwestern Theatre, West Superior, Wis.

CONROY AND EDWARDS are in their twelfth week with W. B. Watson's "O'Hooligan's Wedding" Co., doing their specialty and playing parts.

MANAGER GALLAGHER reports good business at the Providence (R. I.) Nickelodeon. The following people appear week of Dec. 20: Curio hall—Prof. Dodd, Hugh Marron and Dutchy Manning. Theatre—Higgins Bros., Herbert Shirft, Ileane Cambell, May Handy, Alice Waning and the Virginia Trio.

WILLIAM OLSCHAUSKY AND MISS LONNY sailed Dec. 21 to Bremen, to fill engagements in Breslau, Ger., on Jan. 1, with twelve months in England and France to follow.

LOU SHAW was recently compelled to relinquish his position in Pittsburg, owing to ill health. He intended to take his former position in the office of James J. Armstrong, in this city, but the present state of his health will enforce idleness until next Spring.

"LITTLE CONEY ISLE," a new musical burlesque, by Harry B. Marshall, will be produced for the first time Jan. 6, by the Thespians, at Philadelphia, Pa.

TEXAS.—[See Page 709.]

Dallas.—At the Opera House Leon and Mme. Adelaide Herrmann, Dec. 13, 14, did well. "A Night at the Circus," 15, 16, had fair attendance. "Human Hearts," 17, 18, owing to the extremely inclement weather, had poor houses. Booked: "Fabio Romani" 20, "A Jolly Night" 22, an amateur performance 23, 24, for benefit of Camp Sterling Price, Confederate Veterans; "The Dazzler" 25.

CAMP STREET.—Ethel Russell, Martin and Durand, H. B. Burton, Owen O'Connor, James Harding and Tom Martin.

Fort Worth.—At Greenwall's Opera House Walker Whiteside pleased a good audience Dec. 9. The Herrmanns were given a very pleasant reception 11. Wm. S. Roberts, presenting "Don Cæsar de Bazan," did very well 13 "A Night at the Circus," at popular prices, came 24, to good business. "Human Hearts" opened 14, for two nights and a matinee, and from present indications will do well. The company is well balanced, and Ed. A. McHugh gave us the best tramp we have had this season. To come: 20-24, the Wolford Stock Co.; 25, "A Jolly Night."

THE STANDARD.—Corney Brooks and May Flody, Flo. Williams, Pearl Winans, Minnie Linck, Ada Yule, Lulu Lawton, Minnie Marion, Mel. Reilly and Ethel Forrest, Lizzie Mitchell, Barrett Bros., Burt Swor, Ed. Jenkins and Belle Jeans, Frank Gibbons, Ethel Barlow, Maggie Lawler, the McNeil Sisters. Nina Beason, Louise Allen close 18. Burt Swor continues to hold the crowd as long as he wishes.

HOLLAND'S.—The Four Daileys, Bob, Mary. Estelle and Willie; Eva Allen, May Wheeler, Louis Thomas, Ed. Wagner, Pete Shaw, Carroll and Joyce, Giles Button, Gale Bros. John Stanley closes 18. Due 20: Nellie Williams-Devaro. Carroll and Joyce are drawing cards.

A. W. HAWKES is underlined at the City Hall. ......Hugh Morgan, with "A Night at the Circus," was shaking hands with old friends during the show's engagement here. He was prominent in local theatricals several years ago.

CONNECTICUT.—[See Page 709.]

Bridgeport.—At Smith's Auditorium business last week was limited only by its capacity. The house was filled at each and every performance. "A Trip to Coontown" was put on by a strong and capable company, and scored a success. Oliver Byron and company also tested the capacity. Manager Smith presents a strong vaudeville bill for Christmas week, 20-25, which includes Gus Williams, Aximoto's Royal Yeddo Japanese Troupe, Thomas J. Hefron, the Dunbars, Carmannelli and Lucille, Jeanette Lilford, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Payne, Lubin's cineograph, all American subjects, including a number of local views taken for this engagement. Jos. J. Dowling and Myra Davis, supported by their own company, in "A Pillar of Salt," week of 27.

PARK CITY THEATRE.—Francis Wilson, 14, filled the house. "The Sunshine of Paradise Alley" 18. The matinee was light, but the evening performance was well received by a much larger audience. Coming: Richards and Canfield, in "My Boys," 25, matinee and night; Chas. H. Yale's "Devil's Auction" 27, "The White Slave 29, "Under the Dome" 31.

WASHINGTON.

Spokane.—At the Auditorium Katie Putnam made her sixteenth visit to Spokane Dec. 10, 11, and did good business at both performances. The Whitney Opera Co. gave "Lost, Strayed or Stolen," to fine houses, 13, 14. The Del Conte Italian Opera Co. is billed for three performances early in January.

CŒUR D'ALENE THEATRE.—The White-Harris Comedy Co. is still the attraction and a good drawing card.

MICHIGAN.—[See Page 709.]

Kalamazoo.—At the Academy of Music Clay Clement, in "A Southern Gentleman," came to fair business Dec. 16. "Ole Olson" will be the attraction 25.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"A Clean Sweep" Co. is booked for matinee and evening 25.

ILLINOIS.

Chicago.—Four novelties are here to brave the gloom of the week before Christmas. They are "The Adventures of Lady Ursula," presented by E. H. Sothern and company at Hooley's; Herbert Kelcey and Effie Shannon, in "A Coat of Many Colors;" Henry E. Dixey, as a magician, at the Great Northern, and "The Electrician," at the Alhambra. The approach of the holidays, of course, is having its depressing effect. Relatively speaking, however, business has been good during the past week. Aside from the attractions mentioned Donnelly and Girard appear in "The Geezer" at the Schiller. "The Girl from Paris" puts in its third and last week at the Grand. Denman Thompson brings "The Old Homestead" back to McVicker's. Hopkins' stock puts on "The District Attorney." "Northern Lights" shifts to the Academy. "A Contented Woman" comes to the Lincoln. "The World Against Her" plays the Bijou, Isham's Octoroons go over to the Savoy, and some changes of minor importance are made at the burlesque and vaudeville houses. James S. Hutton, manager of the Lincoln, has leased the ill fated Havlin's temporarily. He will keep it open two or three weeks, at least, with Bob Fitzsimmons' Vaudeville Co. There is a possibility that Mr. Hutton may see fit to keep the Wabash Avenue House open indefinitely.

SCHILLER THEATRE.—Tom Nawn arrived here last week with "Shantytown," a three act comedy, elaborated from a sketch put on formerly by himself and his wife. The houses early in the week were first class, but the later attendance moderated. The piece is rather thin, Mr. Nawn's portrayal of an Irish laborer being practically all there is to it. The company is largely recruited from the vaudeville ranks, including Dick and Alice McAvoy, Charles B. Nelson, Henry B. Sutherland, Robert Evans, Henry Myers, Harry Lee, Nettie Nawn, Mary Milledge, Mauzette Gibbs and others. Donnelly and Girard, in "The Geezer," are here this week. Next week comes "The Wizard of the Nile."

HOOLEY'S THEATRE.—Sol Smith Russell took up the role of Bob Acres, in "The Rivals," for four performances last week. It was a satisfactory performance. E. H. Sothern is here this week, presenting Anthony Hope's new play, "The Adventures of Lady Ursula." He is supported by Virginia Harned, Morton Selton, Roydon Erlynne, C. P. Flockton, Roland Buckstone, Rebecca Warren, Kate Pattison Selten and others. The German Sunday drama is "Frau Mueller."

MCVICKER'S THEATRE.—The Bostonians have closed a highly successful two weeks' engagement. "The Serenaders" drew good business, but "Robin Hood," put on the last few nights, packed the house. Denman Thompson is here this week, giving his well known work, "The Old Homestead." He has not been here for four years. The engagement lasts two weeks.

COLUMBIA THEATRE.—"The Wedding Day," with its three stars, De'Angelis, Russell and Fox, has gone. The three names mentioned served to pack the house to the doors every night during the three weeks' stay. The current attraction is "A Coat of Many Colors," with Herbert Kelcey and Effie Shannon as twin stars. The company interpreting this comedy of Madeleine Lucette Ryley's includes William J. Le Moyne, Edmund D. Lyons, Bruce McRae, David Torrence, Edward Lee, Edwin James, Ellie Wilton and Geargia Busby. It is followed next week by Mrs. Leslie Carter, in "The Heart of Maryland."

GREAT NORTHERN.—"Northern Lights" did a light business for a week. Henry E. Dixey is the current attraction, making his first Chicago appearance as a magician. The entertainment announced is practically as it was given in New York.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—"The Girl from Paris," whose seductive charms have filled the house regularly for two weeks, remains for a third. The succeeding attraction is Primrose & West's Minstrels.

LINCOLN THEATRE.—The performance of "The Three Guardsmen," with Paul Caseneuve in the role of D'Artagnan, was apparently good enough to please the crowds which saw it last week. "A Contented Woman" is here for the same length of time, Belle Archer taking the role originally assumed by Caroline Miskel-Hoyt. Next week, "The Electrician."

ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—John W. Isham's Octoroons were popular last week, a statement fully attested by the box office receipts. This week witnesses the first Chicago production of "The Electrician," Charles E. Blaney's new piece. Frank Harrington heads the company, which includes P. Aug. Anderson, Florence Stone and others. Next week, "The Girl I Left Behind Me."

HOPKINS' THEATRE.—"Visions of Art," which still remains, backed last week by "Passion's Slave" and vaudeville, drew excellently. The current drama, presented by the stock, is "The District Attorney." Specialties are by the Jose Quintet, the Four Luciers, Fialkowsky, the Melrose Brothers, Mamie Kline, Harry Thompson, Schaeffer and Garini, and Hopkins' Ladies Orchestra.

BIJOU.—Jake A. Simon, in "Rip Van Winkle," drew good crowds last week. The current entertainment is afforded by the familiar melodrama, "The World Against Her," with Agnes Wallace Villa in the leading role. Next week, Go Won-Go Mohawk.

ACADEMY.—"The Privateer" brought fair results. It is succeeded by Harkins & Barbour's "Northern Lights." Next week, "The Span of Life."

LYCEUM.—"East Lynne" proved as popular an attraction as ever last week. "Neck and Neck" is presented this week by E. T. Stetson and the local stock company.

OLYMPIC.—This house was well patronized, as usual, last week. The present bill is headed by Prof. Leonidas and his troupe of dogs and cats. Others are: Jessaline Rogers and Fred Bock, in their sketch, "My Father;" James Richmond Glenroy, Lew Bloom and Jane Cooper, Joe and Nellie Doner, May Wentworth, Gloss Brothers, Wilson family and Harry Armstrong, Mlle. Chester, Wheeler and O'Neil, the Jarrets, John West and Mabel Craig.

HAYMARKET.—The features of the past week were received well. The current bill is headed by Isabelle Urquhart, presenting "In Durance Vile." Van Auken, McPhee and Hill also contribute something in the way of an acrobatic performance, E. M. Hall, Frank Lawton, Lawrence and Harrington, Carrol and Healy, Joe Welch, Ching Chung, Signor Arcaris and his sister, and Loraine and Howell. Others are Kitty Smith, McConnell Sisters, the Grahams, Hall and Staley, and James Thompson.

CHICAGO OPERA HOUSE.—Patrice, supported by Alf. Hampton, presents the one act comedy, "A New Year's Dream," this week.

SAM T. JACK'S OPERA HOUSE.—Bryant & Watson's American Burlesquers drew good houses last week. Mr. Jack's Tenderloin Co. has returned this week. The feature is a new edition of "The Silly Trial," with Bob Van Osten as the chief comedy character. Karina is the leading attraction in the olio.

CLIFFORD'S GAIETY.—This house was well filled last week in appreciation of the performance. Weber's Parisian Widows introduce a burlesque bill for the current week. The roll includes Tetta Meredith, Tenley and Simonds, Cosmopolitan Trio, Brennan Sisters, Lizzie Van, Bryce and Black, Shea's biograph, Alica Sanson, Mabel Waite, Lizzie Taylor, May Winford, May Garnett, Harriet Clark, Etta Clifton and others.

CLIFFORD'S SAVOY.—Helen Russell's Burlesque Co. was last week's attraction, and did a good business. Isham's Octoroons furnish the amusement for the week. Among the performers are: Mme. Flower, Tom McIntosh, the Hyer Sisters and Kittie Carter. They present a musical farce, entitled "Darktown Outing in Blackville Park."

HAVLIN'S THEATRE.—This house, which has been dark for many moons, is reopened 19, under the management of James S. Hutton, of the Lincoln. Bob Fitzsimmons is the star of the performance, heading a vaudeville company which includes Ernest Roeber, Nelson, Glinseretti and Demonio; Lizzie Mulvey and Pearl Inman and others.

IMPERIAL.—The Rentz-Santley Co. puts on two brief burlesques as the current attraction. Specialties include Jack Daly and Corwin Coleman Devene and Shurtz, Joy and Clayton, Hattie Nicholson, the Edwards, Connors and Calvin, Jack Moon, Georgie Emery and Laura Cook.

WHITE'S LONDON MUSEE.—In the curio hall will be seen Prof. Burns' trained dogs, Margaret Hayden, and Sanderson's Marionettes. In the theatre: The Marshall Bros., Mattie Saxton, Bessie Harrington, and Garrison and Donovan.

CLARK STREET MUSEUM.—Ishmael, Belle Carter, and the German Rose are the curio hall attractions. A variety bill, Rosa, Little Egypt and the Midway dancers constitute the theatre bill.

GOSSIP.—The Actors' Fund Benefit at the Columbia took in $1,172, most of which was profit. The bill was a lengthy one, but it was excellent. The sale of satin programmes by young ladies of the Thursday Club and by Misses Fay and Nugent, of "The Girl from Paris" Company, brought in $140......There has been considerable discussion over the authorship of "Shantytown," which is billed as the work of Opie Read. The latter says he was engaged to elaborate Tom Hawk's sketch, "One Touch of Nature," by Robert Fulgora, but that the comedy as presented is entirely different from the way it was when completed by him. The revision is largely the work of Nawn Palmer. The Marlowe Theatre, Englewood, will be opened Christmas for two performances of "The Span of Life."

Peoria.—On Dec. 14 the Bessie O'Brien Concert crowded the house. Miss O'Brien is a young girl, of Springfield, Ill., who has but lately returned from Paris, where she studied under Marchesi. She has a delightfully pure, sweet voice, which in the middle and lower registers is particularly soft. She sings with the greatest ease, and has a simplicity of manner rarely seen in one of her accomplishments. She is natural and unaffected to a degree, and has the making of a fine singer. She proposes, after a few concerts throughout the States, to resume her musical studies, probably with a view to going into oratorio or opera work. She was assisted in her concert by local talent composed of Anna Kerr, violinist; Henry Velde, tenor, and Frederick Boscovitz, pianist. Miss O'Brien's sister was her accompanist, and Miss Velde served in like capacity for Mr. Velde. "A Southern Romance" came 17, to a small house. The company, headed by Beryl Hope, and the play fairly pleased. It was excellently staged. "The Heart of Chicago" came to fair audience 18. The company is capable, and the show was well received. W. S. Hart comes 20-21, Mrs. Fiske 23, Chicago University Glee Club 24, "Prisoner of Zenda" 25, Kellar 27, Herbert Kelcey and Effie Shannon 28, "Courted Into Court" 29, the Bostonians 31.

MISSOURI.—[See Page 709.]

St. Louis.—Cold, clear weather, with indications of a white Xmas and a large sale of advance seats, predicts good business this week.

CENTURY THEATRE.—"Courted Into Court," with John C. Rice and Marie Dressler, did good business the first part of last week. Wilton Lackaye, after an absence of two years, comes this week in his new play, "The Royal Secret." Advance sales have been large. Sol Smith Russell Dec. 27.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Kellar played to fair houses last week. General rejoicing is felt at the return of Modjeska, producing "Magda," "Mary Stuart," "Camille" and "Macbeth." The bon ton have all but bought the house for this week. "The Sporting Duchess" 26.

FOURTEENTH STREET THEATRE.—Mrs. Fiske played to excellent business last week, and Kathryn Kidder returns once more, in "Sans Gene," but will have heavy opposition, yet advance sales have been good. Ralph Stuart next week.

STANDARD THEATRE.—This house, with two shows daily, is leading the procession in attendance this season. The Merry Maidens had S. R. O. sign out several times last week. The great St. Louis favorite, Harry Morris, with The Twentieth Century Maids, will pack the house this week. Reilly & Wood's Show 26.

HAVLIN'S THEATRE.—"A Black Sheep" was quite amusing to the patrons of this house last week. "McFadden's Row of Flats" promises a good run this week. 26, "Fallen Among Thieves."

IMPERIAL THEATRE.—"The Fool's Revenge," produced by the stock last week, ranks among the best produced this season. Beaumont Smith, as Bertuccio, was almost faultless. "Don Cæsar De Bazan," with William Redmund in the title role, is the bill for this week.

HOPKINS' GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—This house continues to draw well. Good business prevailed all last week to witness "The Galley Slave," by the stock, and a good vaudeville bill. "Visions of Art," so long advertised, will be the feature this week. The stock will produce "Esmeralda." The olio includes El-Zobedie, Richard Pitrot, Adrienne Ancion, Billy Carter, Miles and Ireland, Geo. Austin, Joe O'Hare, Swain and Downey.

GOSSIP.—"The Last Stroke" Co. is reorganizing here......The Blue Bell Quartet, one of the best in the West, composed of Anderson, Starks, Barry and Hillgass, gave a delightful entertainment 18, at Kicker's Hall....Gardner Crane, late of "The Last Stroke" Co., has been engaged by the Imperial to play juvenile roles.......Robt. Aull was elected president of the Fair Grounds Association....The cake walk at the Natatorium, 16, by colored elite, was won by Louis Hall and Laura Oten....Poultry show was largely attended by farmers 13-18....... Guy Lindsley and pupils will give an entertainment at Pickwick 21....Edmund D. Lyons will manage the Suburban Garden next Summer.......Wm. Redmond replaces Lawrence Hanley in the Imperial stock.......Geo. Yoeman, Dutch comedian, of Robt. Mantell's Co., is spending the holidays here........The fourth concert, St. Louis Choral Symphony, occurs 22......The Ferguson Opera Co. produced "A Breach of Promise" at the Tiffin Opera House 17.

NEBRASKA.

Lincoln.—The muddle in which the Lansing Theatre has been involved for the last three or four years has at last been terminated by the purchase of the theatre by William Oliver, of Lockport, N. Y. The sale was made Nov. 30, confirmed Dec 4, and possession taken 6. On Sunday, 5, Mr. Lansing entered the theatre and took therefrom all of the scenery, draperies, box chairs and box office furniture. He was enjoined by Mr. Oliver before removing anything else. Mr. Oliver has rechristened the theatre as "The Oliver," and has installed John Dowden Jr. as manager; Eddie Young, treasurer. New scenery, complete, and drop curtain is being painted by Wm. Grabach; new draperies, chairs and carpets replace the old ones. Under the name of the Oliver "Under the Red Robe" came 7, to one of the best houses of the season. The performance by local talent for the benefit of the Holy Trinity Church packed the house 8. The second concert of the Philharmonic Orchestra was given 15, to excellent business. "A Bunch of Keys" came 18, to good business. Booked: "The Prisoner of Zenda" Jan. 1; Lillian Russell, Della Fox and Jeff De Angelis, in "The Wedding Day," come 4; "Secret Service" 5, "A Girl from Paris" 7.

THE FUNKE.—The Mackey Comic Opera Co. presented the operas, "Said Pasha" and "Chimes of Normandy," in a very satisfactory manner, but to only fair business. "The Dazzler" came 6, to good business. Digby Bell presented "The Hoosier Doctor" to an excellent house 10. "The Broadway Girl" came 13, to fair business. Local performance by the children of the Capital School packed the house 17. Booked: The Boston Continued Performance and Vaudeville Co. is booked for week of 20.

DUNCAN B. HARRISON, manager of the Digby Bell Co., laid off at Lincoln for a four days' hunt, which he enjoyed in spite of the cold weather which he encountered. He succeeded in bagging a large number of quail. He rejoined the company 15, at Omaha.

MINNESOTA.

Duluth.—The Lyceum had Frederick Warde Dec. 16, in "Iskander." The audience was large considering the thermometer registered 10 degrees below zero.

THE PARLOR THEATRE.—The business holds out good. The people for the week of 23 are: Lew Baker, Barney and Grace Flynn, Marion Atwood, Al. West, Wall and Manning, Wm. J. Wells, and the stock. The afterpiece will be "Uncle John's Reception."

FREDERICK WARDE gave a lecture on Shakespeare before the High School scholars and teachers, with some visitors, in the High School building, on the afternoon of 16.

DELAWARE.

Wilmington.—At the Grand Opera House Dorothy Morton, in "Miss Brevity of Hong Kong," made a decided hit 14: Spooner's Comedy Co. had a fair house 20, to open their week's engagement. Booked: "A Guilty Mother" 27, Lillian Kennedy, in "The Deacon's Daughter," 28; Brown University Glee 29, "Never Again" 31, "Railroad Ticket" Jan. 1, Payton Comedy Co. 2-7, "Sunshine of Paradise Alley" 10, "Wang" 11, "Always on Time" 12.

WONDERLAND.—Manager Dockstader offers as his Xmas attraction the following performers: Barnes and Sisson, California Trio, Gorman and Fields, O'Rourke and Burnette, W. Rosarie, Metropolitan Three, and Dubic's trained animals.

KANSAS.

Wichita.—At the Crawford Grand John Griffith presented "Faust" to only a medium house Dec. 13. Mr. Griffith was at his best and thoroughly pleased his audience. "A Breezy Time" came on 15, and in face of a Norther did only fair business. Punch Robinson, due 16, 17, has not been heard from. Coming: Maro, magician, 21; "Real Widow Brown" 25......Fred E. Le Comte, manager of "A Breezy Time," was shaking hands with his old acquaintances in the city last week.

Leavenworth.—At Crawford's Grand Opera House "A Bunch of Keys," Dec. 12, had fair business. "The Widow Jones" delighted a large audience 15. Spooner Dramatic Co. come week of 19, "A Contented Woman" 31.

Miscellaneous.

ITEMS FROM FRENCH'S SENSATION, NO. 1.—We opened at Cairo, Ill., Nov. 21, and are gradually moving South among the friends with whom we have been for the last nineteen years. Our patrons and performers are pleased with our business, and we have no reason to grumble at either. Bowley and Gay, of Rochester, N. Y., joined the show at Memphis, Tenn. Our people are: Wiley Hamilton and Ruth Wiley, George and Maxine De Carlo, Billy Drayton, Capt. John E. McNair, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Robinson, George La Rose, Frank O'Potts, Master Harry Robinson, Fred Friend, Henry Rouge and Walter Falkenstein. This is the first trip South for our new steamer, Mary Stewart. Sensation No. 2 and steamboat Ruth are being repaired and decorated for the Monongahela River in the Spring.

J. B. WILSON, high diver, is wintering at Fort Worth, Tex.

CHARLES H. DOUTRICK, late advance agent of the Faust Bros.' Comedy and Novelty Company, will spend the holidays at Grandview, Ill. He and Prof. Woodford have again assumed business relations, and have perfected arrangements to give day and night aerial exhibitions at the Trans Mississippi Exposition, Omaha, Neb., which opens June 1, 1898.

THE WILLIAMS TRIO and Miss E. F. Densmore play Lewiston, Me., week of Dec. 20, with the Cornell Concert Co.

DR. HOWARD CURTIS, the electric belt man, was married at Waterville, Kan., to Julie Welch.

RHODE ISLAND.

Providence.—At the Providence Opera House, Dec. 13-15, Denman Thompson's "The Sunshine of Paradise Alley" had fair business. The rest of the week "What Happened to Jones" came here for the first time, proved to be a great show and had good business. This week Margaret Mather makes her first appearance in several years. She will present "Cymbeline." The advance sale is very large. On the following week there will be two attractions, the first being "In Town;" the latter part of the week, Wm. H. Crane, in "A Virginia Courtship."

KEITH'S OPERA HOUSE.—William H. Powers, in "Shannon of the Sixth," last week, was good, and the business was much better than usual on the week preceding Christmas. This week, Charles E. Blaney's "A Hired Girl." The company is made up of good people, and it is the style of a show that pleases the patrons of this house, and there is no doubt but what it will do well. On the following week Kelley and Mason, in "Who is Who?" This is their first appearance here as stars. They were last seen here in "A Run on the Bank."

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Week of 13-18, Weber & Fields' Russell Bros.' Co. gave as good a show as has been seen here this season. The business was very large. This week Manager Spitz styles his show a Christmas present in vaudeville. It will include the following people: Johnstone Bennett and Geo. W. Leslie, Viola Sheldon, Carroll and Larkin, the Harpers, the Silvers, the Handicap Trio, Hall and Bowers and the American biograph. On the following week, Hallen & Fuller's First Prize Ideals of Vaudeville. As these people are great favorites here, a big event is looked for.

WESTMINSTER THEATRE.—Week of 13-18 Ed. F. Rush's White Crook Co. gave a very good show, but hardly up to the shows that have been at this house for the past few weeks. The business was fair. This week the Vaidis Sisters Novelty Co., for the first time at this house, and will include Geo. Thatcher and Ed. Marble. On the week to follow, Fred Rider's Night Owls.

NOTES.—Keith's Opera House has all the novelties in the way of advertising. A large window in an adjoining dry goods store was secured, a kitchen was set up, and a man representing "A Hired Girl" amused vast throngs of people, who completely blockaded the sidewalk......Some very large illuminated letters, with the word Olympic, have been placed in front of the theatre, and can be seen from away down the street......The friends of Manager Spitz have presented him with a large silver water cooler. It is a mammoth affair.

Pawtucket.—At the Pawtucket Opera House business continues to be brisk, and it is most certainly making money. The attractions of the present week are "A Trip to Coontown" and Geo. Timmons' Co., in "The Fairy's Well," and on the following week, "On Time" and "Unknown." The season of 1898-'99 is fast being booked with the best attractions ever offered here.

ARKANSAS.—[See Page 705.]

Little Rock.—At the Capital Theatre Modjeska came Dec. 15, to good business. Al. G. Field's Negro Minstrels played 17, to a top heavy house. Tim Murphy, in "Old Innocence," had a fair sized audience 18. Walker Whiteside, in "Richelieu," comes 20; "The Dazzler" 22, "Human Hearts" 25, Tim Murphy (return engagement) 27.

DEATHS IN THE PROFESSION

William Terriss, the well known actor, was stabbed to death on the night of Dec. 16, as he was entering the stage door of the Adelphi Theatre, London, Eng., by one Richard Arthur Prince. William Terriss was born in London, Eng., in 1849. His father, the late George Lewin, was a successful barrister, and his uncle was the historian, George Grote, deceased. At Windermere College and Jesus College, Oxford, young Lewin received a liberal education, and it is recorded that for a short time subsequent to leaving Oxford he was in the Royal Navy. Whatever course in life may have been mapped out for him by his father, it is evident that Mr. Terriss early found his natural impulses turning him towards the stage, and in October, 1869, the youth of twenty began his professional career at the Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham, Eng. At this theatre he sustained various small parts for some months, after which (1870) he joined the stock company of the Bancrofts at the Prince of Wales Theatre, London. The following year he became a member of the Drury Lane Theatre Company, and he was in the original production of Halliday's play, "Rebecca," Sept. 23, 1871. When Halliday's "Lady of the Lake" was first played (Sept. 21, 1872), Mr. Terriss created the role of Malcolm Graeme. Soon afterwards he went to the Strand Theatre, and was the Doricourt in "The Belle's Stratagem" during its 250 nights' run at this theatre in 1873. In 1874 he returned to Drury Lane, and there, Sept. 26, he was the original Sir Kenneth in the first production of "Richard Cœur de Lion." A few months later, at the same theatre, he played Romeo to the Juliet of Ellen Wallis, and Sept. 4, 1875, he was seen as Captain Molyneux, in "The Shaugraun," when that piece was produced at the Drury Lane. Mr. and Mrs. Dion Boucicault were in the cast also. "The Shaugraun" ran for three months at the Drury Lane, after which it was removed to the Adelphi Theatre, where it ran into the Spring of 1876. Afterwards Mr. Terriss appeared in a number of revivals at the Adelphi and Princess Theatres. On Sept. 22, 1877, he created the character of Julian Peveril, in W. G. Wills' drama, "England," at Drury Lane, and on March 30, 1878, he played Squire Thornhill, in the same author's "Olivia," then first acted at the Royal Court Theatre. Sept. 16 of the same year saw the first production of H. J. Byron's comedy drama, "Conscience Money," at the Haymarket Theatre, and as Sidney Sefton Mr. Terriss rather surprised the London critics, who then spoke of the improvement he had made "since he quitted melodrama for comedy." In the following month, at the same theatre, he appeared as Captain Absolute in a revival of "The Rivals," and on Dec. 2 he acted Fawley Denham in Albery's "The Crisis," then originally produced. Mr. Terriss remained at the Haymarket until the Fall of 1879, creating two more new roles —Walter North in "Ellen" (April 14) and Hugh Merryman in "Bragg" (June 12), both by W. G. Wills. Oct. 4, 1879, he was engaged at the St. James Theatre, appearing as Comte de la Roque in "Monsieur le Duc," Val Princeps' one act play, and as Jack Gambier in "The Queen's Shilling." In the following year Mr. Terriss joined Mr. Irving's Lyceum Theatre Co., appearing in "The Merchant of Venice" in the Fall of 1880. When Tennyson's two act tragedy, "The Cup," was produced, Jan. 3, 1881, Mr. Terriss was the original Sinnatus. He made his American debut with Mr. Irving's Co., appearing at the Star Theatre, this city, Oct. 27, 1883, as Christian, in "The Bells," and made such a good impression on that occasion that he was accorded an individual curtain call. He was also seen as Bassanio in "The Merchant of Venice," Moray in "Charles I;" Nemours, in "Louis XI;" Laertes, in "Hamlet," and other roles. The following year he did not return with Mr. Irving to this country, but busied himself with managerial speculation in London. He was pecuniarily interested in the first foreign tour of the company of Daly's Theatre. While Mr. Irving had his company in this country in 1884-5, Mr. Terriss supported Mary Anderson at the London Lyceum, in "Romeo and Juliet" and other plays. At this time, too, he began to appear as the heroes of Adelphi melodrama, and in these roles he became dear to playgoers in London. In 1885-6, he for a short while appeared in the spectacular "Faust," but soon gave up the title part in favor of George Alexander. He next appeared in New York, in 1889, when he was seen at Niblo's, in the dual role of Laroque and Luversan, in Robert Buchanan's adaptation of "Roger la Honte." Later in this engagement he essayed the role of Claude Melnotte in "The Lady of Lyons," to the Pauline of Jessie Millward, with whom he has since been associated in many performances in London. In the Fall of 1893 he returned to this country again with Mr. Irving, to act King Henry II. in "Beckett," and that season he was seen as Cromwell in "Charles II," and as Thornhill, in "Olivia." Recently he had been greatly admired in London as William the Sailor, in a revival of Jerrold's "Black Eyed Susan," and his most recent roles have been Aylmer, in a Wellington Waterloo melodrama, of no great account, called "In the Days of the Duke," and Lewis Dumont, in "Secret Service." His daughter, Ellaline Terriss (Mrs. Seymour Hicks) survives him. At the special meeting of the board of trustees of the Actors' Fund of America, held Dec. 20 at their rooms in this city, resolutions of condolence for the death of William Terriss were passed, which the secretary was ordered to cable to the Actors' Benevolent Fund of England. An engrossed copy is to be sent to Mrs. Terriss.

ALPHONSE DAUDET, the well known French litterateur, novelist and dramatist, died Dec. 16, at his home in Paris, from syncope. He was born May 13, 1840, at Nimes, a provincial town in Southeastern France. His parents were poor, and his education was to a great extent self earned. At the age of seventeen, accompanied by his brother, Ernest, he went to Paris, in the hope of earning a livelihood in some literary pursuit, and for a time had a hard struggle for existence. The following year Alphonse published his first volume of poems, entitled "Les Amoureuses," which at once made for him a reputation, and soon led to his connection with various newspapers. From that time success smiled upon nearly all his literary productions, and he eventually became one of the leading lights in the world of literature. In 1862 he wrote, in conjunction with Ernest Lepine, "La Derniere Idole" and "L'Oeillett Blanc," two comedies. Three years later he wrote the libretto for the comic opera, "Les Absents." Later dramatic efforts were "Le Sacrifice," "Lise Tavernier," "L'Arlesienne," "Fromont jeune et Risler aine," and with Adam Belot turned his own romance, "Le Char," into a comic opera. He found this work profitable enough to induce him, with the assistance of other writers, to turn many of his romances and novels into plays. "Le Nabab," "Les Rois and Exil," "Sapho," "Numa Roumestan" and "Tartarin de Tarascon" were all treated in this way.

BARRY HARVEY, known in private life as Fred Mitchell, died in Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 11, from heart disease. He was born in Hamilton, Can., in 1857, and made his professional debut at the age of twenty as a member of Harry Lindley's stock company. He remained with that organization for two years. He preceded the late Edwin Knott and Richard Knowles, and in 1879 dramatized Victor Hugo's work, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," it being known in the dramatic version as "Esmeralda." In it Barry played the part of the Hunchback, and associated with him was Harry Lane, the two taking out their own company in this play for a season. Deceased had played star parts in many repertory companies, and during his career had been associated with Harry Lindley, Townsend family, R. H. Baird, Orne Walker, David Ramage, Josie Wills and others. The remains were sent to his mother's house at Hamilton, Can., and buried in the cemetery there 15. He leaves a widow and three children living at Decatur, Ala., besides his mother, two brothers and a sister at Hamilton, Can.

Under the Tents.

GEORGE SUN is taking baths at Hot Springs, Ark., a guest of Buly Maurice. Others there are Gus Yeager, of the Boston League Club; Boyland Eustace, of Minneapolis; Snyder and Burns, of Texas, and Billy Myers, the Streator cyclone of ball note; C. W. Turner, P. J. Brogan, Bert Schenck and S. M. Compton, of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show; Joe Garnel and W. C. Sheath, of Sells & Forepaugh Show; John Barton and M. Morrison, of Lemon Bros.'; John Davis, of Hummel Hamilton & Sell's Show; J. P. Hickey, dog trainer; William Bickett, George Atkinson, Billy Dutton and Col. J. T. Johnson, of the Amphi Theatre.

COL. C. A. POTTER, manager of the advance billing car of the Great Wallace Show, was at Mobile, Ala., on Dec. 15, and has the city finely billed for the appearance of the Great Wallace Shows on Dec. 27. Chas. Veneder is now the boss bill poster on Col. Potter's car. The boys will eat their Christmas dinner in Florida.

CHAS. WATSON and wife, Lotta Watson, have finished a season of thirty-three weeks with the Robinson-Franklin Shows.

LEW NICHOLS, manager of the side show with the Great Wallace Shows the past four years, has been sick with typhoid fever, and during his sickness Phil Elsworth took the management of the show for the remainder of the season.

THE THREE MILLETTE BROS., acrobats, have closed with Ringling Bros.' Circus, and are at present home in Newark, N. J.

FOREIGN SHOW NEWS.

"A BRACE OF PARTRIDGES," a three act comedy, by Robert Ganthony, was performed Nov. 15, at the County Theatre, Kingston-on-Thames, Eng.

"THE LITTLE MINISTER," a four act drama, by J. M. Barrie, was played Nov. 6 at the Royal Haymarket, London, Eng.

FIRSt POSTAGE STAMP.

The first postage stamp seems to have been used in Paris in 1653, but the service in which the stamp was used was only local, and soon failed. On May 6, 1840, the first regular postage stamps were issued in England. Various local forwarders of letters and postmasters in this country issued stamps as early as 1841. The first to do so was A. M. Brieg's City Dispatch Post, which was sold to the Government in August, 1842. Blood & Co., of Philadelphia, sold stamps in 1841, and the postmasters of Baltimore, New Haven and New York, of 1845, also sold stamps.

In 1847 the Government took up the business; but Brazil, in 1843, was ahead of the United States in taking up the stamp end of the postal business. The other principal countries followed in this order: France, Belgium and Bavaria, in 1849; Hanover, British Guiana, Prussia, Spain and Switzerland, 1850; Italy, Denmark, Baden, Wurtemburg, Saxony and the provinces of Canada, in 1851; Chili, the Princes of Thurn and Taxis (who had the postal monopoly in Germany), in 1852; Portugal, in 1853; India and Norway, in 1854; Uruguay and Mexico, in 1856; Sweden, in 1858; the Australian colonies early in the fifties; Greece, in 1861; Turkey, in 1863; Ecuador, in 1865; Egypt, in 1866; Bolivia, in 1867; Paraguay, in 1870. The International Postal Union was formed in October, 1874, and went into operation on July 1, 1875.—*St. Louis Globe Democrat.*

HOW HE FOUND THE PIN.

At an entertainment in Dublin a thought reader boasted that he could find a marked pin hidden by one of the audience. Several of them came forward, among whom was a confederate.

The pin was hidden by a Trinity student in an adjoining room in the presence of the committee, among whom was the confederate. The student, suspecting the man from his looks, slyly took the pin away from its hiding place.

On his return to the platform the thought reader gazed into the hider's face, and, putting his hand to his brow, was blindfolded and led the student to the hiding place, but, of course, could find no pin. He returned, acknowledging his defeat, and looking daggers at his confederate.

"Now, gentlemen," said the student, "I undertake to say that, if this diviner of the human mind will do as I tell him, half the audience, without a single hint, will know where the pin is," and, turning to the thought reader, he said: "Sit down."

He did so. There was a yell, and, jumping up, the thought reader hastily pulled from his coattails the marked pin!—*Scottish Nights.*

"That is a curious looking cane, Colonel. Is it a memento of the war?" "Yes. It was made from the hollow log I occupied during the battle of Lookout Mountain."

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QUERIES ANSWERED.

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ADDRESSES OR WHEREABOUTS NOT GIVEN. ALL IN QUEST OF SUCH SHOULD WRITE TO THOSE WHOM THEY SEEK, IN CARE OF THE CLIPPER POST OFFICE. ALL LETTERS WILL BE ADVERTISED ONE WEEK ONLY. IF THE ROUTE OF ANY THEATRICAL COMPANY IS SOUGHT, REFER TO OUR LIST OF ROUTES ON ANOTHER PAGE. WE CANNOT SEND ROUTES BY MAIL OR TELEGRAPH.

THEATRICAL.

COMEDY, Gazzam.—Address M. Bazzett & Co., 100 East Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

P. E. W., Washington Court House.—1. Address Frank Howe, London Theatre, this city. 2. We know of no company at present presenting that play upon the road.

B. E. G., Franklin.—1. The Brewster Carriage Co., New York City. 2. E. Walker, 1,607 Broadway, this city.

A. B. C., Lancaster.—He is not the party who was a member of the firm you refer to.

FAUST JR.—For information and for material address the Columbia Trick Co., 321 Bowery, this city.

CARRICK, Baltimore. — We do not think there would be any demand.

F. V., Lincoln.—We have not heard from the company this season, and we do not know whether or not it is upon the road.

W. E. R.—The company is not known to us.

C. R.—We know of no text book that would assist you, nor can we in any way help you to accomplish your desires.

H. C., Sturgis.—Address the party in care of THE CLIPPER.

F. N. C., Turner's Falls.—See route list in this issue.

E. T. C., Deadwood.—Address Sam T. Jack, Chicago, Ill.

D. A. W., Waco.—We can in no way assist you in obtaining a position upon the stage.

C. C. B., St. Johnsbury.—You cannot copyright an apparatus. Consult a patent office attorney.

BASSO.—See reply to H. A. B., in this issue.

J. McD., Corning.—A number of performers claim to have accomplished the feat, but we have never seen it done, nor have we any authentic record of its performance. Several performers have been killed in the attempt to do it.

PAPER.—1. You would have no right to do as you suggest. 2. The proposition should be made by the local manager.

H. A. B., Pawtucket.—Make application to managers. It is too late to do anything this season.

CAPT. F. W., Moline.—You are in the main correct, but we have no record of the names of the parties employed in the scheme.

CONSTANT READER, Manchester.—1. One dollar. 2. We do not care to recommend anyone. 3. Show them to publisher.

MRS. T., St. Louis.—Address Ringling Bros., Baraboo, Wis.

T. J. H.—It was the original Edward Harrigan. It was his son who died.

VOCALIST, Philadelphia.—Advertise your want in THE CLIPPER. See rates at head of this column.

B. B., Baltimore.—The only charge we make is for advertising in our business columns.

J. W., Peoria.—Address the party in care of THE CLIPPER.

E. AND L.—Julia Arthur began her engagement in "A Lady of Quality" at Wallack's, this city, on Nov. 1, last.

W. B.—An act such as you describe is worth nothing. Add to it and it may be worth from fifteen to twenty dollars per week.

F. T. C.—Address the party in our care and we will advertise the letter.

J. G.—The party you name is still our correspondent at that point, but the town has been theatrically dead for some time, and we cannot give you the information you seek.

L. D., Montreal.—The party is alive and well.

A. M. M., Philadelphia.—We cannot in any way assist you in obtaining engagements.

H. S., Ashtabula.—E. R. Street, 351 Main Street, Hartford, Conn. A. Braunneiss, 124 East Ninety-eighth Street, New York City.

J. W., Philadelphia.—Address the party in care of THE CLIPTER.

INFORMATION, Brooklyn.—1. The buyer may use them upon the stage. 2. It is not. 3. Induce some manager to give you a private trial.

H. W., Chicago.—The party has no theatre in that city. He was unable to carry out his plans.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Wm. J. Scanlan is still living.

BASEBALL, CRICKET, ETC.

C. P. R., Pittsburg.—Each club of the National League and American Association will be scheduled to play one hundred and fifty-four championship games next season.

F. B., Richmond.—The choice of innings is given to the captain of the home team.

CARDS.

P. C. W., Nantasket.—The dealer wins the game, as jack is scored as soon as turned.

J. S., New York City.—If the player lifted his hand before discovering that he had too few cards it was not a misdeal, but his hand was dead and he stood out of the game for that hand; if he announced, before raising his hand, that he had too few cards, it was a misdeal, when the cards should be reshuffled, recut and dealt again.

C. H. K., Newburyport.—B, with but two points to go, having made in play the three he bid, went out with high and low. He was not required to make three points *before* A made the one he wanted.

T. C. McM.—B is right. The player whose card is faced in the *draw* is not allowed to accept such card, but must be helped to the next card from the top of the deck, and before any player to his left is helped.

J. C. R., Manchester.—In auction pitch the jack may be taken with any superior trump, and scores for the player who takes or saves it. No. 5 wins the money.

J. O. C., Barnwell.—A, needing but one point, won the game with the ace of trumps. The fact that B made the trump did not give him precedence in counting, and, though he made in play what he bid, his opponent's high outranked his hand.

GREENE, Long Branch.—D is wrong. At whisky poker the party who elects to take the "widow" lays his own hand on the table face upwards, when each of the other players, in rotation to his left, is entitled to take in either of the exposed cards, discarding one of his own in its place, and so on around until some one knocks, after which each of the other players may still make one more exchange.

L. W., Kent.—At all fours, if the dealer give to any player more or less than six cards, there must be a fresh deal.

CONGRESS HALL, Rochester.—Until he is called, so long as he keeps within the limit agreed upon, or the other players all drop out.

E. C. B., Toronto.—A player who opens a jack pot and is not called is not obliged to show more than openers to the board; it is optional with him to show his entire hand to one or more players.

J. H. S., Montreal.—The rule says that a player must take a trick before he can score any points he has melded, and which are standing to his credit; but in many coteries the game is differently played, a player being permitted to meld out with the fall of a trick; in such cases the custom of the house governs.

W. F. G., St. Paul.—The game which you were playing is new to us, but in similar games the custom, where each man plays for himself, is for the play to continue until the actual lowest man is discovered, he being "stuck" for the refreshments.

W. R. W., Lewistown.—D having scored two more points than he was entitled to, K was right in setting D back two points and adding the same number to his own score.

C. G. M., Cleveland.—If you mean pedro sancho, the player who makes the trump must lead to the first trick a card of the suit he makes trump; if you mean double pedro, the successful bidder leads to the first trick any card that he pleases, there being no compulsion to lead a trump.

CRIB, Providence.—The player who approaches most nearly to thirty-one is entitled to mark one for the last card, go, or end hole. If a player reaches thirty-one exactly, he marks two instead of one.

ATHLETIC.

M. R. G., Central Falls.—Only eleven priz were offered, the additional sums stated by you to have been given to contestants who were not entitled to share in those being, if given at all, simply presents.

EUREKA, Wallingford.—According to the conditions under which the sweepstake was drawn Rice, Schinneer and Hale were respectively first, second and third.

J. A. B., New York City.—Those particularly interested don't appear to have been able to arrive at a correct decision in regard to that matter so far, and they can hardly do so now. Several different measurements have been published.

T. W., Waterbury.—Let us know whether you refer to the recent six days' race in this city, and we will answer next week.

J. G., Boston.—Thanks for attention, but the information arrived too late for use in the 1898 CLIPPER ANNUAL.

RING.

G. W. P., Watertown.—Bets on the result of a fight should be paid in accordance with the referee's decision; in case of a draw each bettor receives back the money he wagered.

B. D. L., Philadelphia.—The recent fight between "Kid" McCoy and Dan Creedon was not for the middleweight championship of any country. Had it been for the title they would have been confined to 154lb. the maximum limit of fights for the middleweight championship, whereas it was at catch weights, and both principals scaled above the regular weight. If McCoy cannot reduce himself to 154lb, he cannot fight at middleweight, and he is, consequently, not the champion of that division. When Bob Fitzsimmons defeated the late Jack Dempsey for the title he weighed 150½lb, Dempsey's weight being 147½lb. The maximum limit of lightweight is 133lb, and of featherweight 112lb. All pugilists fighting over 154lb are in the heavyweight division. Tom Sayers' best weight, according to his backer, Johnny Gideon, was 147lb.

J. M. V. F., New York City.—"Kid" McCoy and Steve O'Donnell engaged in a four round glove bout in New York, Jan. 9, 1896, no decision being rendered.

TURF.

PENN., Chicago.—The first race run at Washington Park, Chicago, Ill., on June 23, 1894 (American Derby day), was for a purse of $1,000, for three year olds and upward, one mile. It had five starters, and was won by Peytona.

A. J. L., Washington.—Grand Prix, by Sir Modred-Premium, is a bay gelding, and was five years old in 1894.

DICE, DOMINOES, ETC.

O. M. B., Lexington.—1. At poker dice three sixes and two aces beat three aces and a pair of fives. In all dice games sixes are high and aces low. 2. See "Miscellaneous" answers.

BILLIARDS, POOL, &c.

J. M. McC., West Superior.—Write to Dick & Fitzgerald, 18 Ann Street, New York City.

MISCELLANEOUS.

E. S., North Adams.—Write to Dick & Fitzgerald, 18 Ann Street, New York City.

F. P. M., Mobile.—"I drank three cupfulls of water," or "I drank three cups of water," are both proper.

O. M. B., Lexington.—George Washington was actually born on Feb. 11, but owing to a change in the calendar the date was altered to Feb. 22, which date is now celebrated in his honor.

Checkers.

Correction of Game No. 40, Vol. 45.

BY J. T. DENVIR, CHICAGO.

At twenty third move of above game note (a) the position is Black 2, 4, 5, 7, 13, 14, 15. White 32, 30, 28, 26, 22, 21, K 1. For 26 to 23 play as follows and win:

22	17	14	18	6	9	22	26	21	17
13	31	30	26	18	22	14	18	6	9
32	27	5	9	26	17	26	31	23	18
31	24	1	6	13	22	18	23	9	13
28	3	9	13	9	14	2	6	3	7

White wins by first position.

Solution of Position No. 43, Vol. 45.

BY C. A. MULLER, NEW YORK.

Black 4 7 8 14 18 K 15 16
White 30 26 21 5 K 28 6
White to play and win.

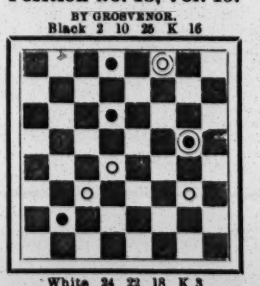
6	10	14	21	5	1	8	24	20
15	6	30	25	30	23	28	24	11	15
21	17	21	30	1	26	8	11	20	24

White wins.

Position No. 43, Vol. 45.

BY GROSVENOR.

Black 2 10 26 K 16



White 24 22 18 K 3
Black to play and win.

Game No. 43, Vol. 45.

DYKE.

Played in New York C. C. gold medal tourney between Messrs. Simpson and Ostrander. Mr. Simpson played black.

11	15	17	13(b)	8	11	13	6	27	31
22	17	4	8	22	17	2	9	2	6
15	19	22	18	7	10	23	19	23	26
23	16	15	22	31	26	9	13	6	10
12	19	25	18	11	15	19	15	26	31
24	15	9	14	27	23	10	19	22	18
10	19	18	9	19	24	17	10	13	17
25	22	5	14	28	19	19	23	21	14
8	11	29	25	15	24	10	6	30	21(a)
30	25	1	5	26	22	24	27		
11	15	26	22	6	9	7	2		

(a) Mr. Ostrander slipped up a little later and lost.
(b) In a game between Messrs. Reay and Hastie the latter played

27	23	29	25	18	15	10	6	1	6
4	8	10	17	13	22	30	25	11	16
23	16	31	14	15	10	17	14	28	24
8	12	1	6	22	25	15	18	16	20
22	18	25	21	16	12	6	2	2	7
15	22	6	9	7	11	18	25	20	27
25	18	27	23	21	17	14	10	31	24
12	19	13	17	11	15	25	22	3	10
17	14	23	16	10	7	10	6	6	15
9	13	17	22	2	11	5	9	Drawn.	
32	27	26	17	14	10	6	1		
6	10	9	13	25	30	9	13		

News of the Game.

In the McLauren-Dykes match, at Windsor, the score stood: McL., 5; Dykes, 2; drawn, 19, at noon. Mr. Dykes failed to appear in the afternoon, and the match was declared to be won by McLauren.—*Detroit News-Tribune.*

.....Dr. Schaefer throws an interesting light on the double claimants for the Canadian championship. As our friend, the Doctor, is sure footed, we are apt to think that he has excellent grounds for the views he has taken. What says Bro Stearns? And just here let us remark that Bro. Stearns seems a little bit wabbly about the world's championship being held by Barker. If he thinks that Reed never had it, then he contends that Jordan is the champion. It is about the most muddled affair that we know of. If an arrangement could only be made whereby Barker and Jordan could meet, with due respect to both, and settle the question once for all, it would wipe out all controversary as to who is the genuine champion. We haven't heard even a grunt from Boston for many months, and something ought to drop pretty soon. They say Reed is putting up some first class checkers just now, but of Barker we don't hear anything.....A fourth edition of *Hill's Synopsis* has just been published by J. H. Bailey, of London. The book is neatly gotten up and should have a large circula tion.....Tommy Ryan, of Philadelphia, Pa., has recently made another good investment in the shape of a forfeit posted for a match with Montgomery, of Paterson, N. J., for $50 a side. Tommy lately has depended upon the players of Paterson to furnish "velvet" for him, and his grip seems to retain its firmness as of old.

Chess.

To Correspondents.

MRS. T. B. ROWLAND.—Very glad to be assured of your returning health. The more complete announcement of "Pollock Memories" shall be duly noticed.

BRO. HELMS.—What ails the score of the McMahon-Marshall chessikin? it does not pan out. Your opinion of *that* screed, if only a little more strongly expressed, agrees entirely with our own. Give your unbiased opinion of our proposition. Note of 13th to hand.

DR. BROUGHTON.—Card duly received, and welcome; we trust the line of communication is now permanently graded.

S. LOYD.—Kind remembrance forwarded, thanks.

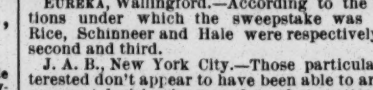
W. H. CLAY, Pres't Brooklyn Ch. League.—Glad to hear that the little suggestion was agreeable. As soon as your note arrives will write you.

Solution of Position 2,137.

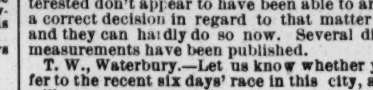
1..Q to Kt 5!, if P to K 4; 2..Q to K 3: and 3.. mates: if 1..B to K 4; 2..Q × B +; and 3..B mates. Of this, H. J. C. Andrews wrote in *C. of L. Ch. Mag.*: "As the production of a lady, this is highly creditable, both as regards elegance of idea and accuracy of construction." What Mr. A. ever said about Mrs. Gilbert's mate given herewith, if anything, we do not know.

Enigma No. 2,140.

An Honor Problem from The Chess Bouquet.
BY MISS LILLIAN BAIRD.



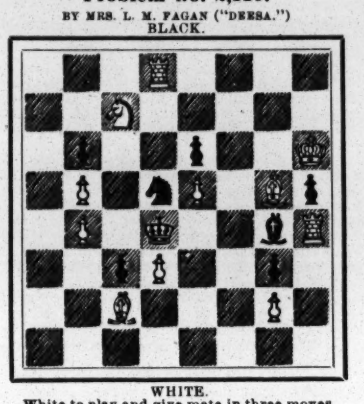
at K R, K B 2, Q sq, Q Kt 6, Q R, Q 4, Q Kt 3, 7, K B 4, 7.



at Q 3, K B sq, Q B 3, 2, K 2, and 5.
White to play and give mate in two moves.

Problem No. 2,140.

BY MRS. L. M. FAGAN ("DEESA.")
BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play and give mate in three moves.

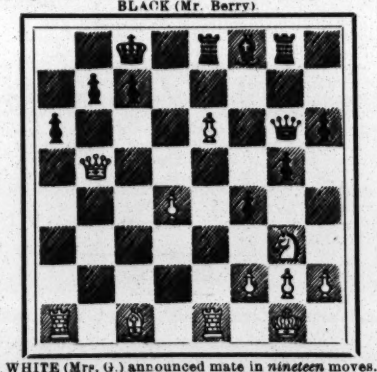
Game No. 2,140.

It is now quite *en regle* to give the American "Queen of Chess," in her day, a rehearing. *Partie* by correspondence between Mrs J. W. Gilbert, of Hartford, Ct, and Mr. Berry, of Mass

RUY LOPEZ KT'S GAME

White, Mrs. Gilbert.	Black, Mr. Berry.	White, Mrs. Gilbert.	Black, Mr. Berry.
1..P to K 4	P to K 4	13..Q to K 2	Q to K B 2
2..K Kt-B 3	Q Kt-B 3	14..Q Kt-K 4	K R-Kt sq
3..K B-Kt 5	P-Q R 3	15..P-Q B 3	P-K R 3
4..K B-R 4	K Kt-B 3	16..P-Q Kt 4	P-K B 4
5..Castles(a)	Kt × K P	17..Kt-Kt 3	P-K Kt 4
6..K R-K sq	K Kt-B 4	18..K Kt-Q 4(c)	Kt × Kt
7..K B × Kt	Q P × B	19..B P × Kt	Q R-K sq(d)
8..P-Q 4	K Kt-K 3	20..P-Kt 5(?)	B 2d P × P
9..Q P × P(b)	Q-K 2?	21..R P × P	Q B × P
10..Q Kt-B 3	Q B-Q 2	22..P-K 6(e)	Q-Kt 3
11..P-Q R 4	Castles	23..Q × Q B!	P-K B 5, and
12..P-Q Kt 3	P-K B 3	we have this, dedicated to the ladies of the recent International Tourney.	

BLACK (Mr. Berry)



WHITE (Mrs. G.) announced mate in *nineteen* moves.

NOTES, BY A. BURN JR.(*)

(a) We prefer Anderssen's 5..P to Q 3. [So do *not* we.]

(b) An innovation we cannot recommend. By exchanging Qs Black might now make sure of an easy draw, the trifling disadvantage of a doubled P being more than compensated by having two Bishops vs B and Kt. Black's reply is weak, blocking up his own pieces.

(c) The judgment and knowledge of position displayed by Mrs. Gilbert in the middle part of this game is, to our mind, almost more remarkable that her concluding announcement.

(d) If K B × P, he loses a piece by P to K 6.

(e) The commencement of a remarkably fine combination of the highest order.

(e) Beautiful! winning a piece by force. This is the sequel to Mrs. G.'s combination at 20.., which was so subtle that we do not wonder Mr. B.'s overlooking it.

(*) [Presumably the present Liverpool master, Amos Burn.]

☞ As a recent commentator on Mr. Burn's (a), see our "*In Memeriam*" game with Mr. Hall, Nov. 13, which Herr Englisch won, indeed, but ought to have lost, as is clearly shown.—ED. CLIPPER.]

Consultation Chess.

Having given a mild specimen of theory, we now give a short game that may be considered most all theory; but exceedingly well played and instructive, and interesting withal.—*American Chess Magazine.*

Marco Schlechter.	Charousek. Fahndrich.	Marco. Schlecter.	Charousek. Fahndrich.
(Play four moves as above.)			
5..Q Kt to B 3	P to Q 3	14..Q to her 2	Q to K B 3
6..P-Q 4	K Kt-Q 2	15..K Kt-K sq	K Kt-B 3
7..Q P × P	Q P × P	16..K Kt-Q 3	P-K Kt 4(f)
8..K B-Kt 3(!)	P-K R 3!	17..P-K R 4	K B-K 2(g).
9..Q B-K 3	K B-Q 3	18..R P × P	R P × P!
10..Castles	Castles	19..Q-her B 3	Q-Kt 2
11..Q Kt-K 2	Q Kt-R 4	20..B-his 5	P-K B 3
12..Kt-Kt 3	Kt × B	21..P-K B 3	K B-Q 3;
13..R P × Kt	Kt-Kt sq	22..K-his B 2	Q B-K 3.

Black offered a draw, which was accepted.

Inasmuch as White, after Kt to R 5, could double Rs on K R file, and Black had to look out for B × B, or K Kt to Kt 4, the White position seems preferable; but an advantage could not be strictly proven. Black had Q to K 2 at their disposal, which, after all, might be sufficient to save the game.

(f) The simplest treatment of the position. Formerly one used to play K B × Kt. Black, however, gets a good attacking game by the exchange, while the text move gives him no chance; on the contrary, he must remain on the defensive. Black's reply is, perhaps, his best. If K B to K 2; 9..Kt to Kt 5, B × Kt; 10..Q to R 5, consequently an easy way for White to develope his pieces. 8..Q Kt to R 4 would be an error, *e. g.*: 9..B × P +, K × B; 10..Q to her 5 +, etc.

(g) Dislocating Black's pieces has so far resulted in no material gain of position for White. But Black is afraid of P to K B 4, and determined to prevent it. The White allies, however, were of the opinion that P to K B 4 would disarrange their position.

(g) If 17..Kt P × P; 18..Kt to K 2, followed by P to K B 4, with a good attack.

Amateur Chess.

Game between the Captains of the Progressive and Bishop's C. C.'s, F Fawcett and B. C. Selover Jr., in the Brooklin Chess League.—*Eagle.*

CENTRE COUNTER GAMBIT.

Fawcett.	Selover.	Fawcett.	Selover.
1..P to K 4	P to Q 4	12..Q Kt to K 2	K Kt to Q 2
2..K P × P	Q × Q 2d P	13..P-Q B 4	Castle, Q R!
3..Q Kt-B 3	Q-home	14..P-Q B 5	K B × P
4..P-Q 4	P-Q B 3	15..Q P × B	Kt × Kt
5..K Kt-B 3	Q B-B 4	16..Q B-Q 4	Kt × K B +
6..K B-K 2	K Kt-B 3	17..K R × Kt	Q Kt-Q 2
7..Castles	P-K 3	18..P-Q Kt 4	Kt-K B 3
8..K Kt-K 5	K B-Q 3	19..Q-K sq	Q B-Kt 5
9..P-K B 4	Q Kt-Q 2	20..K R-Q 3	Q Kt-Q 4
10..Q B-K 3	Q-K 2	21..P-Q R 3	Q B × Kt
11..K B-his 3	Kt-his 3	22..Q × B	Kt × B P,

and White resigns.

☞ There is a good deal of "Who's afraid?" spirit in this game, as is altogether commendable in amateurs; and those who can play such chess as the above are soon to be heard of in higher circles.

Club Recruiting.

The system pursued by the clubs in looking for recruits, either to their playing strength or their numbers, in the old haphazard way is rapidly changing. This is patent on the face of current events. Chess, like a good many other things, and chess by no means inconspicuously, is in a state of upheaval and evolution. Not in the game *per se*, but its methods of extension. See the factors at work. Tournaments, like those of our esteemed neighbor, *The Sun*, to which present members of standard clubs are not admitted; the open handed and open hearted movements of our Brooklyn and Metropolitan, and the Phila Franklin C. C.'s., the Interscholastic Chess Leagues of Greater New York, and that very nursery and stepping stone to the clubs, the Intercollegiate League and matches. Of the unprecedented upheaval in England, and its probable triumphant results, our readers are competently informed. Up, up! the sun is rising. Narrow selfishness and insolent cliquesism is moribund.

Hence it is interesting at this stage of progress to know the present accredited leaders of the Brooklyn Chess League. To that end we give the first (Captain) and second representative of each of the thirteen clubs now in the organization:

Bishop's C. C., B. C. Selover Jr., E. W. Tyler; Boys' High School, G. Heuser, E. Reidel (Why isn't there a "Girl's H. S." C. C., eh, why?); Castle, W. H. Healey Jr., H. G. Healey; Caxton, E. A. Schroeder, H. A. Giese; Dutch Arms, T. S. Fox, W. E. Millard; Exchange, C. Helms O. Lagerquest; Knights, H. Somers, A. W. Meisel; Manual Training High School, Allen, Howell; Pillsbury Amateur, H. Langer, M. Leopold; Progressive, W. Thurston, H. Shapter; Steinitz, J. E. Lister, Gen. S. F. Kneeland; Y. M. C. A. (Central), A. H. Grosser, F. E. Rejall; Do. (Prospect Park), C. Carlton, R. Reid.

Now we can not avoid the reflections—from this long list who will fall by the wayside? Who will enter the clubs and become the first rates, the champions? Still higher. Who will become accredited national champions, from whose trained intellects shall come the battles to uphold, and even extend the glories and triumphs of American chess? The present magnates will shortly sing with the Australian poet:

"Soon must we lay the chessmen by"

Truly, during all our half century of observation, the certainty of an unbroken succession of American champions has never been so well assured and so satisfactory as now; more satisfactory, by as much as organized discipline is a more trustworthy reliance than haphazard acquirements, however courageous.

The "Ladder" Scheme.

It seems curious, and yet is not wonderful how facts and schemes in chess get so buried in the boundless ocean of chess literature that their very memory is lost, and their resuscitation comes with the light and surprise of a new discovery. In the search for "Deesa's" problems we have made that very sort of discovery. Our Australian brethren thought, and so did we, as is on record, that they invented the "Chess Ladder." Revelation: *The City of London Ch. Mag.*, Vol. II., p. 329, shows, as far as appears, that the Glasgow C. C., previous to 1875, originated the idea, and practiced on it; from which the Australian scheme but moderately varies. The magazine cited, says:

"In a club of twenty or thirty members it would be easy to establish the system in vogue at the Glasgow Club—viz., to number all the members according to their reputed strength—Nos. 1, 2, 3 and so on. No. 20 might think himself stronger than No. 19, and would wish, therefore, to displace the latter. A match is accordingly arranged between them, and, according to the result, No. 20 would either become No 19 or remain as before. To secure the victor from being oppressed by his title being continually called in question, there should be a limit of time, say about three months, before another challenge could be given. This condition would induce care in conducting the match, and add to its importance in the eyes of both parties.

"No. 1 would, of course, stand in a proud position, and would be the captain of the club. New members, whatever their strength, if they wished to take part in the competition, would be entered at the bottom of the list and have to work their way up. We advise [all young and small clubs] to choose this, or some equally useful mode of improvement, and thereby save themselves from falling into a loose and lazy style of play, than which nothing more annoys a competent beholder, while the intellectual pleasure to be derived from the game is considerably impaired. After all, the sight of men moving about a set of wooden dolls, their fingers doing all the work and their brains abed, is far from exciting any other feeling than that of contempt. It is, in fact, but a ridiculous aping of the nursery. Pinafore chess ought certainly to be discouraged; yet it extensively prevails, and the ancient game is thereby put upon the same level as Fox and Geese."

Experience has found it desirable to modify details somewhat, but the matter remains the same in principle. It's worth trying.

Splinters.

The University of Pennsylvania applied for admission to the Intercollegiate League, but it was decided that the time at the disposal of the tourney would admit of no more than four contestants.....*The Tribune* is talking strongly of having a correspondence tourney among its contributors.....The Metropolitans rather got the better of the Brooklyns the other night at rapid transit.....Bro Helms informs us that it decidedly appears as though an era of better feeling was springing up among the Eastern clubs. This augurs increased prosperity as well as greater enjoyment to them all.....Jacob Billikops, a young Russian gentleman of fifteen, is exhibiting a wonderful talent for chess in Richmond, Va. Indeed, he is already a promising rival for Mr. Napier. His portrait, with a brief sketch, appears in *Am. Ch. Mag*, No. 6.....Bro. Charlick has at last lost a game, so that his latest record reads: won, 7; lost, 1; drawn, 0; adj., 3. He is still ahead.....The first game for the Australian championship, Crane (holder) vs Jacobsen, resulted in a victory for Mr. J, in 27.....The South Australian Ch. Ass'on is pursuing its usual quiet but certain career of interest and prosperity.....The renowned, always up and coming, ready for anything and anybody in chess, Herr Georg Marco, is to be general manager of the great Vienna tournament next year. Good!.....By *The Eagle* of Dec. 12 we see that the sixth annual intercollegiate tourney is set down for Dec. 27, '97, to Jan. 1, '98, at the Columbia Grammar School, 34 E. 51st Street, the locality of last year. Of course the actual contestants are not yet known.....We appear not to have noted that the first rapid transit tilt, Brooklyn vs. Metropolitan, came off a tie—12½ all. Helms and Napier did the best work for B.; Halpern and Gunsberg for M.....On Dec. 10 Brooklyn tried it on five to five vs Manhattan, at the M.'s rooms. Koehler and Hanham led the Ms.; Napier and Helms bore B.'s banner aloft. Result—the mild defeat of B, by 12 to 13. Napier was quite the hero of the occasion Jasnogrodsky alone drew with him; the other four were given a study of the text—"Learn to labor and to wait".....Mr Jacobsen won the second game in 31 with Mr. Crane. A pretty summary start off.

Athletic.

NEW JERSEY'S CARNIVAL.

A Gala Time at Madison Square Garden —Athletic Sports Galore — Wefers Twice Beaten by Rush.

The annual Winter carnival held under the auspices of the New Jersey Athletic Club, at Madison Square Garden, this city, on the evenings of Dec. 17, 18, was completely successful, the attendance upon each evening being excellent, while the entries were very numerous, embracing many athletes of high degree, and the competitions were throughout exceedingly interesting. Great interest was taken in the sprint races, which brought into contact those celebrities, Champion B. J. Wefers, of Georgetown College and the New York Athletic Club, and J. H. Rush, the Western flyer, now a student of Princeton College. On the opening night they came together in the fifty yards run, which had half a dozen starters, and was handsomely won by Wefers, with Rush four feet behind. Wefers was asked to concede too much in the furlong run, considering the number of starters, and he did not persevere. On the following evening there was a reversal of the order of things, the forty yards sprint resulting in a dead heat between the above mentioned stars, in 5s., with Ed. Zinn on their heels, and in the run off Rush reached the tape ahead by about eight inches, in 4⅘s. The result of the furlong run was the same, only Rush and Wefers starting, and a most exciting struggle terminating in the Westerner carrying away the tape three yards in advance of Wefers, who claimed a foul on the ground that he was elbowed on the homestretch, but Referee Curtis did not entertain the claim, as Wefers was manifestly in the wrong himself. The dumbbell competition was also watched with much interest and had a long list of entries. The eventual winner proved to be Fred Winters, New West Side Athletic Club, he having the highest percentage. Summary:

Sixty yards run.—First heat: Won by B. J. Wefers, Georgetown University, scratch, 6⅘s. Second heat: Won by J. W. Tewksbury, University of Pennsylvania, 3½ft., 6⅘s. Third heat: Won by A. C. Kraengstein, University of Pennsylvania, 1½ft., 6⅘s. Fourth heat: Won by J. W. Ehrich, K. A. C., 4½ft., 6⅘s. Fifth heat: Won by R. F. McInerery, P. A. C., 9ft., 6⅘s. Sixth heat: Won by P. J. Walsh, St. Francis H. A. A., 9ft., 6⅘s. Seventh heat: Won by F. A. Onderdonk, N. W. S. A. C., 7½ft., 6⅘s. Eighth heat: Won by S. Calpagno, Clipper A. C., 7ft., 7⅕s. Ninth heat: Won by S. K. Thomas, K. A. C., 6½ft., 6⅘s. Final heat: Won by Tewksbury, Walsh second, McInerery third. Time, 6⅘s.

One mile bicycle race, novice.—First heat: Won by H. Gelleick, Transit Wheelmen; H. E. Creiger, C. C., second. Time, 3m. 35⅕s. Second heat: Won by J. Messop, Transit Wheelmen; J. Scully, Holy Cross Wheelmen, second. Time, 3m. 26⅗s. Third heat: Won by H. C. Doran, N. Y. C.; G. Taylor, Hobo Wheelmen, second. Time, 3m. 25⅕s. Fourth heat: Won by C. H. Teller Jr., Owl Wheelmen; W. J. Outonious, Gr. Wheelmen, second. Time, 3m. 14⅘s. Fifth heat: Won by A. R. Jacobsen, Addison Wheelmen; R. Jachens, Engelbert Wheelmen, second. Time, 3m. 14⅘s. Sixth heat: Won by J. M. Biangui, American Wheelmen; J. J. Ryan, Defender A. C., second. Time, 3m. 10⅗s. Seventh heat: Won by F. Cassera, Green Wheelmen; H. E. Scratchley, Park B. C., second. Time, 3m. 32⅘s. Final heat: Won by Biangui, Seller second, Jacobsen third. Time, 3m. 15⅘s.

Two hundred and twenty yards hurdle race.—First heat: Won by C. McClellan Jr., N. W. S. A. C., 18yds.; G. G. Winship, N. Y. A. C., 14yds., second. Time, 28⅗s. Second heat: Won by C. A. Lambert, H. A. C., 14yds.; A. W. Smith, N. Y. A. C., 14yds., second. Time, 27⅘s. Third heat: Won by P. J. Corley, K. A. C., 6yds.; F. C. Martin, K. A. C., 12yds., second. Time, 30⅘s. Final heat: Won by Lambert, A. W. Smith second, McClellan third. Time, 26⅘s.

Four hundred and forty yards run, novice.—First heat: Won by D. J. Duffy, P. A. C.; L. E. Herrman, N. Y. C., second; H. W. Garthe, P. A. C., third. Time, 60s. Second heat: Won by A. Shields, Y. M. C. A.; J. J. Harris, N. W. L. A. C., second; H. Mayne, N. Y. C., third. Time, 58⅘s. Final heat: Won by Duffy, Herrmann second, Garthe third. Time, 57⅕s.

Fifty yards run.—Won by B. J. Wefers, N. Y. A. C.; J. H. Rush, Princeton University T. C., second; E. Zinn, N. W. L. A. C., third. Time, 5⅗s.

Team race, open to teams of four men from insurance companies.—Won by New York Life, with W. Jordon, W. J. Price, C. H. Herche and W. J. Waters; Lancashire second, with J. Rafter, C. S. Lord, J. W. Connelly and M. Casey; Metropolitan third, with N. McManus, F. Sullivan, B. Groven and J. M. Kapper. Time, 4m. 1⅖s.

Two hundred and twenty yards run.—First heat: Won by P. J. Walsh, St. F. X. A. A. 12yds.; W. H. Barclay, N. J. A. C., 24yds., second. Time, 24⅗s. Second heat: Won by P. Umpstadter, P. A. C., 18yds.; W. Connors, P. A. C., 16yds., second. Time, 24⅗s. Third heat: Won by F. E. McQuirey, St. B. A. C., 14yds.; B. J. Wefers, N. Y. A. C., scratch, second. Time, 23⅘s. Fourth heat: Won by F. Wygant, Star A. C., 18yds.; S. Rice, N. W. S. A. C., 16yds., second. Time, 24⅗s. Fifth heat: Won by D. M. Daly, H. A. A., 16yds.; P. J. Corley, K. A. C., 8yds., second. Time, 24⅗s. Final heat: Won by Wygant, Walsh second, Corley third. Time, 24⅗s.

Eight hundred and eighty yards run.—Won by W. G. Messer, N. Y. C., 35yds.; J. J. Hopkins, W. S. A. C., 30yds., second; W. F. Ryan, H. A. A., 35yds., third. Time, 2m. 2⅘s.

One mile interscholastic relay race.—Won by Pingry School

The Ring.

McCOY DEFEATS CREEDON.

The Hoosier Boxer's Youth and Height Too Much for the Kangaroo's Gameness.

The match between "Kid" McCoy and Dan Creedon, which had been so long on the tapis, was brought to a decisive culmination on Friday evening, Dec. 17, at the home of the Long Island City Athletic Club, and terminated in the victory of McCoy in fifteen rounds. He was the favorite, and although his opponent is unmistakably a very clever man, and remarkably game, the advantages which McCoy has over him in the matter of age, height and reach, backed by equal pluck, greater endurance, quickness and generalship, made it quickly apparent that he must be the winner. McCoy continued on the defensive almost throughout, and cleverly avoided the efforts made by his opponent, who, always on the aggressive, very seldom reached him, and then only a couple of times with any effectiveness, while he was quite severely punished during the latter part of the fight, after Mac, seeing that he had the result in his hands, let himself loose occasionally, when every one saw that the jig was up. Finally, at the close of the fifteenth round, after Creedon had been badly hammered, and received a square knock down, from which he took time to recover, his seconds threw up the sponge in token of his defeat, although he begged to be allowed to contine. Everybody was much impressed with the generalship, cleverness, skill and headwork shown by the winner, whose reputation the result has greatly enhanced. The statement was made that McCoy weighed 155½lb and that Creedon's weight was 157lb, but both looked considerably heavier, and they probably were several pounds above the figures given. The interest taken in the engagement proved deep enough to pack the old Puritan Athletic Club building to the doors, and long before the show began reserved seat tickets were at a premium. The average betting ruled at 100 to 70 before the fight commenced, while in some cases bets at 100 to 90 were made. McCoy was waited upon by his brother, Homer Selby, "Doc" Payne and Tommy West, while Creedon's attendants were Joe Choynski, Tom Tracy and Benny Murphy. Sam Austin was the referee, and the announcement was made that if at the end of twenty-five rounds he could not name a winner, the fight would continue until he was able to arrive at a decision. Preliminary to the star engagement two bouts between boxers of minor degree took place, Steve Flanagan defeating George Ross in six rounds, and Jack McKeek and Jack Ward making an eight round draw. Both principals to the big affair were heartily welcomed when they made their appearance in the ring, both, upon stripping, being seen to be in capital condition.

THE FIGHT.

ROUND 1. Creedon jabbed a light left on the chest. Both swung rights, but missed, and clinched. McCoy led a left on the mouth, and Creedon tried a return, but fell short. They clinched near the ropes, after which Creedon put his right on the head. McCoy looked to the referee for a claim of foul, and Creedon took advantage of the action and put a left swing on his adversary's face. They resumed sparring, and McCoy jabbed right and left on the body, while Creedon landed a hard left upper cut on the face.

2. McCoy sent the left on the face and skipped back from a swing of Creedon's left. In two clinches Creedon reached McCoy's face with his left glove. McCoy jabbed a stiff right on the ribs without a return, and missed a left swing on the jaw.

3. McCoy led on the face, and then swung left on face and three rights and one left on the ribs in quick succession, at close quarters. Creedon was very slow in his movements, and ran into a clinch on the ropes. McCoy cut loose, and sent his left on the stomach and his right on the head. Then they clinched. In the clinch Creedon swung a short right on the head and was hissed for so doing. But, as they were fighting with one arm free, Creedon was perfectly right. McCoy wound up the round with a left jab on the wind and a right on the ribs, while Creedon swung a light left on the head.

4. McCoy landed on the ribs and head with his left and stepped away without a return. Creedon landed his right and left on body. After some sparring, during which McCoy was far the quicker, the Indiana boxer sent in a hard left jab on the mouth. Creedon became very cautious and waited for an opening. When it came he landed a right on the ribs and brought it up to the head, forcing McCoy to the ropes at the call of time.

5. They clinched and Creedon shoved his right hard over McCoy's heart. In close quarters McCoy jabbed two hard rights on the ribs and another on the head. Creedon tried very hard to reach McCoy's body, but was unsuccessful, while McCoy frequently jabbed light lefts on the stomach.

6. Creedon landed a left on head and McCoy countered. McCoy then sent his left hard on the wind and Creedon sent his left lightly on the face. Creedon landed a nice left on the neck after McCoy made two ineffectual attempts for the wind. McCoy then feinted with his left for the face and brought the back of his glove smartly on Creedon's jaw. Creedon rushed and missed two left swings as McCoy jumped back out of harm's way cleverly.

7. Creedon sent his left to the head and McCoy, in a half clinch, put two lefts on the ribs. Two lefts on the jaw and a swing on the head were McCoy's next contributions, to which Dan failed to make any return. McCoy landed right and left hooks on the head and stepped back quickly. Creedon rushed and McCoy side steeped. He upper cut Creedon with his left and swung right to head. McCoy then rushed and swung right and left on head and Creedon jabbed a light right on the head.

8. McCoy succeeded in getting in his left lightly to Creedon's head. Creedon did likewise, but was immediately sent to the ropes from the effects of a stiff left swing on the face. McCoy followed up this advantage with a light left on the stomach and a hard right swing on head. McCoy's long reach seemed too much for Creedon, and the youngster always wore a self satisfied smile.

9. Creedon tried to force the fighting, but McCoy clinched, and they landed in a neutral corner. When they broke away McCoy sent two left jabs on the face and crossed his right on the head. McCoy then side stepped and landed three left swings on the head. The last of these opened Creedon's right eyebrow, which bled profusely, and McCoy kept jabbing his left on the wind until the gong sounded.

10. Creedon led left on mouth and McCoy missed a right lead for the head. Creedon forced matters, but McCoy was too foxy and waited for an opening. Creedon gave him one, and McCoy swung his left on the wind and brought his right up smartly from the short rib to the head twice.

11. McCoy sent three lefts on the damaged eye and started the blood again. Creedon swung a left on the stomach and McCoy swung lefts and rights on head, stomach and ribs, forcing Creedon to the ropes. After this rally Creedon was bleeding freely, and a right jab from McCoy on the head sent him to the floor, but it was more of a slip than a knock down. Creedon took his time in getting up. As he arose the gong sounded.

12. Creedon landed a left hook on McCoy's head. In a clinch he repeated this blow. McCoy countered with a hook on the back of the head. The "Kid" jabbed the left on the face and they clinched. Creedon hooked a right on the head, and, after the breakaway, Dan swung a left on the face.

13. Creedon forced McCoy to the ropes without damage. McCoy came back very fast and sent in three left jabs on the face and three rights on the ribs without return. A hard left on the wind made Creedon grunt. The New Zealander rushed and jabbed right on the head. The "Kid" swung a heavy left on the head, which turned Dan's head half around. After light sparring Creedon put a left on the head, and McCoy clinched as the bell rang.

14. McCoy threw him off and forced Dan to the ropes. McCoy jabbed a beautiful left on the mouth and stopped a lead for the stomach. They exchanged left jabs on the face twice, and McCoy landed a heavy left on Creedon's nose, which sent Dan's head back and started his eye bleeding again.

15. McCoy kept jabbing his left on the stomach and face. His advantage of reach was too great a handicap for Dan. McCoy, in a rush, upper cut with his left on the face, and hooked his right on the jaw, flooring Creedon in his own corner. Dan took the full limit to get up, and then clinched. Creedon was very weak when he went to his corner, and when the gong rang for the beginning of the sixteenth round Choynski, seeing that his man was beaten, threw up the sponge.

JOHNNY VAN HERST AND JACK GRACE met before the Ontario Boat Club, of Chicago, Ill., night of Dec. 13, weighing in at 130lb and 128lb respectively. Neither man was in the best of condition, and after three rounds they perceptibly tired, the result of the contest being a draw.

Eddie Connolly Knocked Out.

Dal Hawkins and Eddie Connolly met in San Francisco, Cal., night of Dec. 16, having agreed to fight twenty rounds. The attendance was very poor, owing to unfavorable rumors about the fight. The first two rounds were fought furiously by both men, each landing many blows. Hawkins hooked Connolly in the jaw with his left repeatedly. Connolly was equally successful in landing left swings on Hawkins' jaw, and also got in his right on Hawkins' body. Neither attempted to put up much of a defensive fight for several rounds. Both were seemingly tired before the sixth round, but kept steadily at work. In the eighth round Hawkins showed up to advantage. The men, in clinches, talked to each other and smiled a good deal, but apparently were fighting hard until the fourteenth round. In the fourteenth round both fiddled around without striking a blow for some time. Hawkins then landed his left on Connolly's jaw, and sent in a hot one on the stomach. He immediately delivered a left on Connolly's jaw, which the latter did not attempt to avoid, and he was dazed. Hawkins sent in a strong right hook, and Connolly went to the floor. He arose in a groggy condition. Leaving his chin open, Hawkins placed his left on Connolly and he went out. Tom Lansing knocked out Joe King in the second round of the preliminary bout.

A. J. FRANCIS AND BILL CORBETT were opponents in a glove fight for $50 a side and a purse of $125 at Bath, Eng., Dec. 6, the contest being scheduled for twenty rounds, but lasting only nineteen, Corbett being floored twice in the last round, and the second time he was counted out.

ANDREW BARCLAY WALKER, owner of the yacht Ailsa, has become owner of the belt originally owned by the gallant Tom Sayers, together with two gold medals.

Baseball.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.

An Eight Club Organization Formed—A Salary Limit of $1,000.

The preliminary arrangements for a new Southern League were completed at a meeting held Dec. 12, at Atlanta, Ga. The following cities were represented: Charleston, S. C.; Augusta, Atlanta and Savannah Ga.; Birmingham, Montgomery and Mobile, Ala. and New Orleans, La., and it is probable that those cities will compose the league. Louisville was proposed by Henry R. Powers, of New Orleans, but no one from that city was present, nor was anyone mentioned as the backer of a Southern League club at Louisville. Several important financial features were fixed by the delegates, a salary limit of $1,000 being placed on managers and players alike. A fifty dollar guarantee is made to visiting teams in each game, and a five per cent. gross gate receipt sinking fund established. While former leagues have had arrangements of this nature, they have never been properly enforced, a fact which has invariably led to the disintegration of the leagues. The situation was discussed, and it was found that in each city that has asked admission into the league the outlook is very good.

It is reasonable to suppose that the new organization will be controlled by and be a party to the national agreement, and that it will be governed by the baseball rules and regulations of the National League and American Association, probably in Class B or Class C. If this is the case the Louisville Club, of the major league, would object to the placing of a rival team in that city. Louisville will not patronize a weak team. This has been shown heretofore, and it would be bad financial policy, considering the present condition of things, for Louisville to have two teams playing in different parks and asking for the patronage of the enthusiasts. One good baseball team which can win half of its games would net a profit of say $10,000 a year in that city, but a losing team will lose money every day in the week, Sundays excepted.

The Schedule Committee will be composed of representatives of Atlanta, Mobile and Charleston, and the By Laws Committee of Charleston, Atlanta, New Orleans and Savannah. These committees will report in ample time before the opening of the season, which is to occur April 21, and which is to extend four months.

The probable managers of the different teams are: Jack Huston, for Savannah; J. F. Kelly, for Mobile; Abner Powell, for New Orleans, and Boyer for Charleston. Atlanta has not yet signed a manager. It developed at the meeting that there would be objections to the organization in several cities, but it is confidently believed these can be overcome. No official ball has as yet been selected.

Spalding and Anson Return.

A. G. Spalding and Captain Adrian C. Anson, of the Chicago Club, arrived in this city from Europe Dec. 17, on the steamship Saale. Anson started at once for Chicago, Ill. When Mr. Spalding was was spoken to about Anson's retirement from the management of the Chicago team, he said: "It would be useless for me to deny that we talked baseball on the trip abroad, but you can say that nothing definite has been done. Anson's ten year contract with the Chicago Club expires the first of the year. He has been with us for the remarkably long time of twenty-one years, and has been faithful and conscientious. He is a man who should always be connected with baseball, because he has always been a credit to the game. There is only one Anson, and I feel safe in predicting that there will never be a character like him. The claim has been made in Chicago that he has been too long in charge of affairs, and that the public will welcome a change. Whether this claim is based upon facts or not, the club will endeavor to find out at a series of conferences to be held with Anson and President Hart. If we find that the Chicago public want Anson to remain manager of the team, he will be re-engaged. But if we are convinced that both the patrons of the game and Anson himself will be benefitted by a change, the veteran may give up the reins. Anson is entitled to more consideration in this respect than anybody, and he will receive it. He has been too faithful in the discharge of his duties to be ruthlessly turned down against his will. If Anson wants to have a Western League franchise, so that he can play games at home while the big team is away, he can have all the rights and privileges, and we will do all in our power to support him, but I should hate to see him leave the National League and American Association." When informed that President Freedman, of the New York Club, had suggested that Anson should be placed in absolute control of the major league staff of umpires, at a good salary, Mr. Spalding said: "That would be an excellent idea, providing Anson would care to assume such a place. The National League and American Association would make no mistake in honoring him in some such manner."

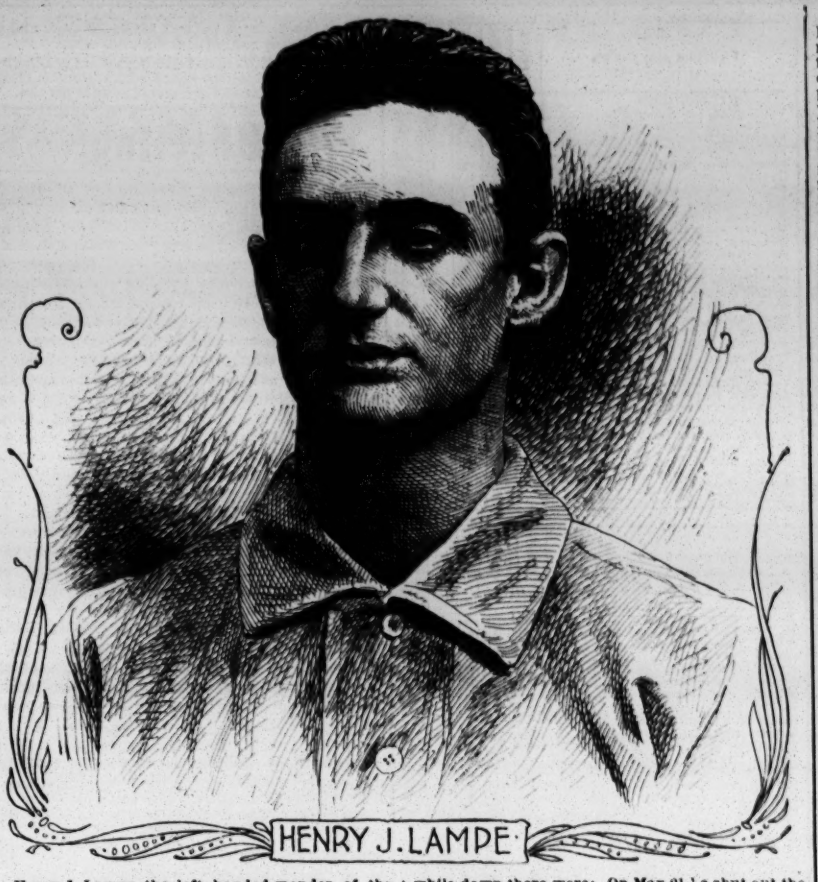
DIAMOND FIELD GOSSIP.

Latest Sayings and Doings of the Baseball Fraternity.

The prospects are that Manager Comiskey, of the St. Paul team, will not take the Slagle case into court. It will be remembered that Comiskey bought the services of Slagle—who belonged to the Boston Club—through negotiations with Manager Selee, paying for him $400 and also $325 back salary due Slagle from the Grand Rapids Club. Later President Soden, of the Boston Club, sold Slagle to the Kansas City Club, claiming that Manager Selee had no authority to make any deals for Boston. The National Board supported the Boston Club. Slagle was to be turned over to Cincinnati in case Comiskey secured him. Speaking on this subject recently President Brush said that the Cincinnati Club had nothing to do with the case. He said that Cincinnati was a disinterested party until Comiskey should secure Slagle. Brush agreed with the National Board—of which he is a member—in its ruling that a manager has no right to make a deal. And he said further that if the Boston Club reimburses Comiskey in the sum of $725, Comiskey has no redress.

The Ohio League was organized at a meeting held Dec. 17, at Canton, O. The cities represented were: Canton, Coshocton, Zanesville, Massillon and Salem. The following officers were elected: Cassius M. Miller, of Canton, president and secretary; George Goodhart, Massillon, treasurer. A salary limit was adopted that will prove satisfactory to players and managers alike. It was agreed to apply for protection under the national agreement. The single umpire system was adopted. The next season will begin May 15 and closes Sept. 1. Not more than three games will be played consecutively in any city. Akron, Niles and Uhrichsville are expected to apply for membership.

The Mahoning Valley Railway Co. on Dec. 16, leased the ball park at Youngstown, O., for another three years, which assures that place of having professional games for at least three more years.



HENRY J. LAMPE.

Henry J. Lampe, the left handed wonder of the Syracuse Club, is regarded by many persons as being the best "South paw twirler" in the Eastern League. He gave his admirers just cause during the past season for making that claim by his excellent work in the pitcher's position, and it was as much his clever pitching as anything else that landed the Syracuse team in first place in the Eastern League pennant race. He was born at South Boston, Mass., in 1874, and pitched for the first time for the Murray and Irwin team, of his native place, in 1892. His first game was against the Whittentons and he won it. For the next two years he pitched against many strong teams, including the Brattleboros, and in one game against the latter they failed to make a safe hit off him in the five innings he pitched. Manager Selee, of the Boston Club, of the major league, was so well pleased with his appearance and the record he had made that he (Selee) engaged him for the season of 1894, but he either did not give satisfaction or did not get a thorough trial. However, he was released early in the season. In 1895 he began the season with the Lawrence Club, of the New England Association, and after participating in twenty-one championship contests, seventeen of which were victories, his release was purchased on June 25 by Arthur A. Irwin, who was then manager of the Philadelphia team, of the major league. Later on, however, he was "loaned" to the Buffalo Club, of the Eastern League, finishing the season with its team. He participated in twelve games with the Bisons, filling the pitcher's position in eleven games, and one he played right field. Of the eleven contests six were victories, four defeats and one resulted in a tie after eleven innings had been completed. On June 12, at Lawrence, he shut out the Fitchburg team without a run and allowed them only six safe hits, and on June 25, the last game he pitched for Lawrence, he held the Lowells down to four safe hits, from which they scored a single run. Early in 1896 the Philadelphia Club released him to the New Yorks, and he made his first appearance with the latter on April 10, in an exhibition game at the Polo Grounds, this city. He was afterwards transferred to the Metropolitan team, of the Atlantic League. He pitched in several games for the Mets and then he was "loaned" to the Portsmouth Club, of the Virginia League, appearing with its team for the first time on May 13, and while there he participated in twelve championship games, winning six and losing six. Some of his best pitching feats while down there were: On May 21 he shut out the Petersburg team without a run, and allowed them only three safe hits. On June 6, he shut out the Roanokes without a run and held them down to six safe hits. On June 15 the Richmonds made only four safe hits, from which they scored a single run. After that he was recalled by the Metropolitan Club, and on June 20 made his reappearance with the latter's team, in a game with the Wilmingtons, on the Polo Grounds, this city, and defeated them by 6 to 2. He remained with the Mets until the latter were dropped by the Atlantic League, when he, with others, were disposed of by the New York Club. Lampe was engaged by the Fall River Club, of the New England League, and finished the season with its team, appearing for the first time on Aug. 21. His best pitching feat after joining the Fall Rivers was in a game against the Pawtuckets on Sept. 16, at Fall River, when he held the visitors down to two safe hits, a single, and a two bagger by Hannivan, now of the Brooklyns, the Fall Rivers winning by 7 to 0. Early last Spring he was engaged by Manager Buckenberger for his Syracuse team, of the Eastern League, and during the past season participated in thirty-seven championship contests, winning twenty-four and losing thirteen. Some of his best pitching performances were: May 11, at Springfield, he held the home team down to four runs in twelve innings. May 24, he shut out the Torontos without a run. May 31, the Rochesters made only four safe hits, from which they scored one run. Aug. 27, he shut out the Springfields without a run, and on Aug. 31, he allowed the Scrantons only five safe hits, from which they scored three runs. Lampe returns to Boston after the playing season ends, and during the Winter months lives with his people out at Dorchester. Personally he is a splendid fellow, has a great army of friends. During the Winter he spends most of his spare time getting into shape for next season. He says that the pitcher who takes good care of himself in the Winter months is bound to make a good record in the Summer. He is ambitious, and believes there is a place for him in the major league by and by. Those who know his ability best say it is only a matter of time before he will land where his ambition directs. He is said to have a very strong arm. He has remarkably good command of the ball, has some very puzzling and deceptive deliveries, and never loses his head, even in the most exciting games. He stands 5 feet 11¼ high, and weighs about 180lb.

"In the days of old, baseball was said to have been attended by less noise and open demonstration on the part of spectators," says *The Cincinnati Times-Star*. "Frequently one hears the old-timers say that the crowds are not what they used to be—that players of today are not treated as nicely by the spectators at a game as they were twenty-five years ago. A copy of *The Commercial* of October 23, 1870, gives the lie to this cry of orderly crowds in the good old days. The game described in the paper referred to was played in Philadelphia between the Cincinnati Reds and the Athletics, and was won by the Reds, the score being 15 to 8. It seems that for this occasion the price of admission was increased. *The Commercial* says: 'The proposition to advance the rate to this extravagant price was made by the Athletics. The operation failed signally, as it deserved, and resulted in the loss of about $2,000 and the popularity to the game among Philadelphians. The only gain was the avoidance of a noisy and meddlesome crush, the audience proving very select and tame.' All this would seem to indicate that in those days, as now, players were targets for the profanity of spectators, and were given about as much consideration by the rooters as are the players of today." The author of the above seemingly takes "a meddlesome crush" to mean "players were targets for the profanity of spectators," etc. "Noisy and meddlesome" were the old time reporter's idea of people who encroached upon the players and the scorers' bench and interfered with their work. In those days there was a section of the grand stand set aside for the newspaper men as is the case nowadays. Then the reporters generally sat upon a bench a short distance from the home plate, and it was often the case when the public encroached upon the territory allotted the players and the reporters. Such a thing as the spectators abusing or using obscene or foul language to the players was never heard of. The spectators were only too willing to make excuses for the players' errors, and it was frequently the case where even the misplays of visiting teams were condoned. It will require more convincing evidence than the above quotation to make any old timer believe that the "players were targets for the profanity of spectators" in those days, as is now too frequently the case.

President James A. Hart, of the Chicago Club, is quoted as saying: "I went to Philadelphia with a number of rules against rowdy ball that I intended to have introduced. Mr. Brush met me there and showed me the provisions that he had drawn up. They were much more severe than mine, and appeared so much more effective that I immediately threw those I had framed aside and prepared to support the Cincinnati magnate. I do not believe that any provision that can be framed is too severe. There has been little or no rowdyism at Chicago, so the patrons here really do not know what it is. There is no reason why a ball player, when he gets out on a diamond, should act differently than were he at a dinner table, and if he knew that the league would not stand for such actions he would not show them. Ball players were much more respectful and decent years ago than they are at present. Why? Simply because the umpires wouldn't tolerate anything out of line."

A special from St. Louis says that President Von der Ahe is dickering with a syndicate of St. Louis business men with a view of disposing of his interests in the St. Louis Club.

The Pittsburg club has signed William Wolff, a young right handed pitcher, who gained some local fame at Charleroi, up the Monongahela Valley.

The Brooklyn Club has drafted Elmer E. Horton, of last season's Syracuse team, champions of the Eastern League.

"Tom Brown, manager of the Washington team, is of the opinion that the double umpire system will be a failure."—*Exchange*. Tom has some funny ideas. He also wants the bunt hit abolished. In fact he wants a handicap placed on every team that has any chance of beating out the Washingtons next season.

"Manager Rowe expects to draft a number of players from the minor leagues of a lower class than that of the Eastern League as soon as the time for doing so arrives, that is Jan. 1," says *The Buffalo Express*. "He already has the men picked out, having been aided in his task by agents in the various leagues. Then, too, he has had a number of applications, and several of these upon investigation turned out to be very desirable men, seemingly. One of the new recruits is likely to be a Texas League outfielder of the name of Lawrence. He is six feet tall, lacking an inch, and is said to be an excellent player in his position, besides being handy with the stick. Another player is Mitchell, the State League pitcher. He is almost sure to be drafted, and so is Bernhardt. The only trouble with Bernhardt is that he persists in saying that he would rather go to any other club than Buffalo, the city of his home, feeling that he could do better in some other city."

Some of the minor league clubs are complaining because the major league managers are going among the semi-professional and even amateur clubs after players. They think the older body should be satisfied with depleting the ranks of the minor leagues and not deprive them of their only resource of getting young material. Manager Finn, of the Newport Club, of the New England League, in discussing the subject, says: "Of course these major league clubs can afford to send agents about to see these undeveloped players and claim them, as they don't have to pay the two or three hundred dollars for drafting. The grave question naturally arises, if this business keeps on where are the small minor league clubs to get their material from? Will they not be compelled to become farms for the clubs of the National or Class A leagues? And then players who the minors could have signed for $75 will have to be paid $150, or thereabouts, simply because they are farmed. Not that they can play any better. It does not take much foresight to see that when this gets to be the case that the players drafted from the minor leagues will be mighty scarce."

When A. J. Reach, president of the Philadelphia Club, heard that Sam Thompson, his big right fielder, had recovered his health and will be ready to join the team next Spring, he said: "I am glad to hear that Sam Thompson is getting into condition again. If he is in condition you may depend on it he will not be exchanged for any other player. He is too valuable a man, and we think too much of him in Philadelphia to let him go." When spoken to on the Sunday game question Mr. Reach declared there was not the remotest possibility of the Philadelphia team playing Sunday games away from home. "Even when the old Athletic Club attempted Sunday games across the river in Gloucester a few years ago, they were a failure," said Mr. Reach. "Our people do not believe in Sunday games, and do not want them."

Capt. Robinson, of the Baltimore team, expressed himself on the recent Baltimore-Washington deal as follows: "I believe McJames is all right, and, to a certain extent, so is De Montreville, but I also know that two finer players never walked than Reitz and Doyle. I remember McGann when he played at Union Park in the Spring. He is a great big fellow, on the Padden order, and about the only thing I remember about him was his awkwardness and his batting. Both were marked, but they say he has improved wonderfully."

"Silver" King, like the late Charlotte Cushman, makes his annual announcement of his retirement from the game.

Jack Easton, the ex-professional player, who was arrested a short time ago, charged with murdering a man last September, was released on Dec. 15, at Bridgeport, O., by Squire Keller, the books and pay slips of the Aetna Standard Mills of Bridgeport showed that he worked at the mills on the day of the murder.

Robert Allen, the veteran professional shortstop, has been selected by the Indianapolis Club as the successor of W. H. Watkins as manager of the Indianapolis team for next season.

Sam Thompson, the veteran outfielder of the Philadelphia team, of the major league, said in a recent interview: "I am good and strong, and feel positive that I am not a back number yet. I do not know where I will play next year. I would prefer to play in Philadelphia, but may go elsewhere. Manager Watkins, of the Pittsburg Club, has called on me twice within a few weeks, and has asked me if I would like to play with his team. I am under reserve to Philadelphia, and have nothing to say in the matter. Watkins proposed to arrange a trade with the Quakers. I believe he intended to exchange Elmer Smith for me. Smith was traded off to Cincinnati, and now I hear that Watkins is trying to arrange a deal by which Donovan will be given to Philadelphia for myself. I feel positive that I can report in condition for playing next Spring, but will not guarantee to do so unless I have my own way of training. Last year I went to the training grounds at Savannah, with a lot of youngsters who never knew an ache or pain, and tried to keep up their fast clip. That is where I made a mistake. Next season, if I play ball, I will dodge this tough preliminary work. I want warm weather to thaw me out, and I feel confident that I will be able to play as good ball as ever I did. I did considerable work during the Winter, in a local club with Twinham, and was all right until I struck Georgia's tough Spring climate. Now that Stallings has got rid of the disturbing elements in the Philadelphia team, I feel certain that the team work will improve, and I also look for the club to make a better showing in the race. There have been several changes that will, in my opinion, benefit the club."

Charles A. Comiskey, president of the St. Paul Club, of the Western League, in recently talking about Captain A. C. Anson, of the Chicago team, said: "I have the highest regard for Captain Anson personally, and knowing his reputation and the big following he has in baseball, I should be very glad to see him in the Western League, if he has any thought of taking a franchise in our circuit. But, as I understand it, Captain Anson has not intimated any such desire. In fact, I know nothing more than gossip to the effect that he will not continue to be at the head of the Chicago Club. There is no question that the Chicago Club, or the National League and American Association, for that matter, are under obligations to Anson. He has been a stalwart, determined fighter; whether or not he has been a success with the club under his management during the last few years, he has certainly tried to do his best. Nobody will deny that. Anson stood by the Chicago Club and the major league during the Brotherhood fight, and, as one who was on the other side, I will assure you that Anson was a big factor in that contest. In addition to putting up his own money, and losing it, to back the major league, for everybody interested in baseball lost money that time, he was by all odds the best drawing card the major league had that year."

President Farrell, of the New York State League, is quoted as saying: "A large number of very good towns and cities, having seen the admirable manner in which the affairs of our league were conducted last Summer, are now anxious to obtain franchises. Among these are Corning, Hornellsville, Binghamton, Utica, Elmira and Oswego. It is among the probabilities that all of these will be admitted to membership, making a strong eight club league. If this should turn out to be the fact, then it is likely some of the towns that were represented last year will decide that it will be better for them to retire. This will be a matter of necessity of several, as it seems to be generally accepted that the salary limit is to be raised to a point that would be beyond the ability of many of last year's clubs. The limit was then $600, this year it will be $1,000 or $900, at least. This means a great deal to cities like Canandaigua and Palmyra. The last named, however, is game and proposes to stay in the league as long as the best of them, and has already paid for protection."

Jay Faatz, the veteran professional player, who formerly managed the Palmyras, of the New York State League, said in a recent interview: "Hornellsville is eager to come into the New York State League now. Last year the league was anxious to have it in the circuit, but at that time the Hornellsville people thought that a continual series between Hornellsville and Corning would prove more attractive, as well as remunerative, but they were disappointed in both respects, as the crowds fell off, and the receipts became so small that it would not have been such a herculean task for them to wiggle through the eye of a needle. If Hornellsville comes in, Corning will certainly want to do likewise. Oswego already has its club organized, and an agent of the league will soon visit Utica, Binghamton, Elmira, and other desirable cities."

The Baltimore-All America combination reaped a rich harvest during its sojourn on the Pacific Coast. Those teams were lucky enough to strike California when it had the baseball fever in its worst form. The story is out that after paying railroad fares both to and from San Francisco, and all the expenses of the trip both ways, that there was enough left to give each member of the two teams $341. To have your expenses paid for three months of the off season, and get $341 besides, is doing pretty well. Managers Selee, Barnie and George Eline, who were in advance of the two teams, share and share alike with the players, will also get $341 each.

J. Earle Wagner, of the Washington Club, says: "McJames, De Montreville and McGann are mechanical players." These are the men he traded to Baltimore for Amole, Reitz and Doyle. It will be well to watch the former trio after Manager Hanlon has taken them on the Spring trip, when it can be seen whose fault it was that they were mechanical players. It is hard to tell whether Hanlon got the turkey and Wagner the buzzard, or whether Wagner got the buzzard and Hanlon the turkey.

The International League was formally organized at a meeting held Dec. 14, at Port Huron, Mich., with the following cities represented as members: Hamilton, London and Guelph, Ont., and Bay City, Saginaw and Port Huron, Mich. Protection under the national agreement has been obtained, and each club made a cash deposit, as a guarantee of good faith. David McArron, of Port Huron, was elected president of the league and Calvin Davis, of Hamilton, secretary and treasurer.

Erie, Pa., is booked for a place in the new Iron and Oil League. This is quite a disappointment to the clubs of the New York State League, which counted upon Erie becoming a member of their organization.

In making up his staff of umpires for next season, President Young should not overlook the veteran, Herman Doescher. It would be far better for the game should Mr. Young make his selections of men of the calibre of Doescher. The latter needs no commendation. He is too well known all over the country as a ball player, manager and an umpire.

Connie Mack, the veteran manager of the Milwaukee team, of the Western League, is making a strong effort to obtain Tucker's release from the Washington Club. It is quite likely that he will succeed.

William Hill, a Pennsylvania State League pitcher, who resides at Pottsville, Pa., underwent an operation at the Pottsville Hospital on Dec. 16. Several years ago Hill was hit on the end of the little finger of the right hand by a baseball. A lump raised over the knuckle and recently it became very sore, and a piece of splintered bone forced its way through the skin. An operation was deemed best to save the finger. An incision was made and parts of the bone were chiseled away. The operation was successful.

George E. Ellis, formerly owner of the Grand Rapids and Newark Clubs, is said to be willing to take the Grand Rapids franchise in the Western League, which has an indebtedness of $1,800 on it, as a gift, but not otherwise. There are three other parties at Grand Rapids who will do better than that.

Manager John J. McCloskey, formerly of the Louisville, but more recently connected with one of the Texas League clubs, went to Shelbyville, Ky., Dec. 14, and signed Russ Hall, the clever young short stop who played last season with the Dallas team, of the Texas League, for the St. Louis Club, of the major league.

The little bunt hit has two pronounced enemies in J. Earle Wagner and James A. Hart, while W. H. Watkins, of the Pittsburgs, wants it penalized.

The Pittsburg team, under President W. H. Watkins, will start for Spring practice in the South on March 7.

President Barrows, of the Atlantic League, has had his full share of bereavement within the past three months, his father and two brothers dying during that time.

Doyle will captain and Brown will manage the Washington team next season. It will be another case of Foutz-Griffin enmeroi. Both will want to show their authority on the field.

Manager Arthur A. Irwin will have his Toronto players report to him at Newark, N. J., early in April.

It is quite likely that the Boston Club's players will do their preliminary work at Norfolk, Va., although nothing difinite has been done in the matter

OFFICIAL AVERAGES.

Western Association Records for the Season of 1897.

President T. J. Hickey, of the Western Association, has completed his task of compiling the records of the players of his association for the season of 1897. Waldron, of the St. Joe Club, heads the batting list with a percentage of .353. There are twenty players above the .300 per cent. mark. The averages, which includes every player who took part in fifteen or more games, are as follow:

BATTING AVERAGES.

Players and Clubs.	Games	At Bat	Runs	1st B. Hits	Per Cent.	Stolen Bases
Waldron, St. Joseph	112	456	117	162	.353	51
Lippert, Burlington	87	355	92	124	.349	76
Klusman, St. Joseph	118	507	95	175	.345	10
Hill, Cedar Rapids	121	422	89	138	.327	37
Dillon, Rockford	106	457	102	150	.327	27
Kitson, Burlington	58	221	42	72	.325	20
Wright, Peoria	121	478	90	155	.324	36
Anderson, Rockford	38	102	25	33	.323	4
Visner, Rockford, Des Moines	60	275	56	89	.320	11
Mohler, Des Moines	121	436	121	139	.318	75
Pace, Des Moines	68	276	59	88	.312	22
Lohman, Des Moines	120	433	91	135	.311	48
Van Buren, Cedar Rapids	126	500	123	155	.310	52
Frisbie, Quincy	122	534	114	165	.308	40
Gallagher, Peoria, Rockford	82	319	70	98	.307	31
Flood, Cedar Rapids	119	466	102	149	.306	38
Fuller, Cedar Rapids	124	508	100	155	.305	32
W. King, Rockford	94	376	68	114	.303	19
Viox, St. Joseph	115	465	130	141	.303	46
Connors, Peoria	114	468	110	142	.303	62
Healy, Burlington	92	39.	79	117	.299	31
Esterquest, Rockford	124	549	103	164	.298	49
Kennedy, Cedar Rapids	122	509	119	151	.296	43
Newman, Rockford	110	491	113	145	.295	55
Kinlock, St. Joseph	71	274	66	82	.295	48
Wolverton, Dubuque	112	441	85	130	.294	22
Sweeney, Dubuque, Quincy	94	385	82	112	.290	15
J. Williams, St. Joseph	121	493	109	142	.288	25
Dugdale, Peoria, Burlington	46	164	17	47	.286	6
Hutchison, Cedar Rapids	126	508	102	145	.285	37
Warner, Rockford	95	371	72	106	.285	36
Truby, Rockford, Peoria	63	246	50	70	.284	11
Hartsell, Burlington	20	78	16	22	.282	3
Baer, Dubuque	117	444	104	125	.281	26
Morrissey, Dubuque	79	316	43	88	.278	5
McKibben, Des Moines	46	183	50	51	.278	32
Letcher, Des Moines	23	104	19	29	.278	9
Kane, Burlington, St. Joseph	101	411	69	114	.277	29
Andrews, Des Moines	95	400	74	111	.277	28
Cole, Cedar Rapids	125	495	78	137	.276	26
Fisher, Cedar Rapids	124	489	102	135	.276	21
Seisler, Peoria	120	462	73	126	.272	35
Wheelock, Des Moines	63	264	48	72	.272	25
Purvis, Des Moines	47	180	21	49	.272	6
Donnelly, Cedar Rapids	57	162	29	44	.271	14
Donovan, St Joseph	119	509	80	137	.269	13
Quinn, Rockford, Peoria	99	367	57	99	.269	19
Roach, Peoria	44	156	24	42	.269	1
Kreig, Des Moines	25	104	21	28	.269	2
Burke, Peoria	116	479	100	129	.267	41
Streit, Dubuque	53	157	25	42	.267	7
Sullivan, Dubuque	124	487	69	128	.262	27
Flaherty, Peoria, Rockford	105	431	78	113	.262	38
Ferguson, Rockford, Quincy	114	467	85	122	.261	44
McGreevy, Quincy	87	313	41	82	.261	14
Huff, Rockford	87	315	64	82	.260	12
Smith, Dubuque	33	115	23	30	.260	10
Francis, Peoria	21	87	18	23	.260	7
Graver, Quincy	57	212	30	55	.259	3
Dundon, Dubuque	123	511	74	132	.258	43
McQuaid, Dubuque	114	507	76	131	.258	44
Long, Peoria	15	62	7	16	.258	3
J. O'Connell, Quincy	124	514	70	132	.256	26
D. Williams, Burlington	80	332	54	85	.256	21
T. O'Connell, Dubuque	46	168	18	43	.256	5
McDougal, Cedar Rapids	37	124	22	31	.250	1
McCreadie, Des Moines	120	446	74	111	.248	25
Berryhill, Burlington	98	403	52	100	.248	21
Underwood, Rockford	79	266	43	66	.248	6
Hickey, Des Moines	119	480	87	119	.247	41
Mahaffy, Cedar Rapids	43	143	26	35	.244	3
Violet, Rockford, Burlington	121	452	87	110	.243	55
Wilson, Des Moines	40	148	18	36	.243	5
Collins, St. Joseph	89	326	37	79	.242	6
Hanson, Peoria	19	54	4	13	.240	1
McCarthy, Des Moines	46	188	37	45	.239	12
Risley, St. Joseph	88	332	50	79	.237	29
Lutenburg, Quincy	98	398	59	94	.236	28
Cantillon, Dubuque	89	346	52	82	.236	10
Sharp, Dubuque	28	123	22	29	.235	2
White, Burlington	84	315	46	74	.234	25
McCann, Burlington	55	235	33	55	.234	17
Jackson, Quincy	33	132	23	31	.234	6
Oswald, St. Joseph, Peoria	107	383	95	89	.232	34
Berte, Quincy	99	382	51	88	.230	14
Meredith, St Joseph	56	195	27	45	.230	9
Coons, Burlington	54	194	16	44	.226	3
Butler, Dubuque	38	119	18	27	.226	4
Neville, Peoria	21	76	15	17	.223	5
McCauley, Rockford	20	76	11	17	.223	2
Breen, Burlington	111	394	66	86	.218	24
Bradley, Burlington	18	64	9	14	.218	21
Freck, Peoria	15	55	14	12	.218	5
Dixon, Dubuque	46	168	19	36	.214	14
Ebright, Peoria	17	61	4	13	.213	2
Parrott, Dubuque	15	61	6	13	.213	2
Hausen, St. Joseph	27	104	24	22	.211	4
McCormick, Quincy	58	228	33	48	.210	12
Traffley, Quincy	57	204	27	43	.210	5
Nonomaker, Dubuque, Quincy	44	135	24	28	.207	5
Bubser, Rockford	22	68	7	14	.206	0
Sawyer, St. Joseph	123	491	80	100	.203	52
Mesmer, Burlington	45	170	19	34	.200	4
Samuels, Burlington	31	110	7	22	.200	4
Mauck, Des Moines	50	147	12	29	.197	4
Babbitt, Rockford	94	335	54	59	.193	25
Pardee, St. Joseph	27	99	11	19	.191	2
Burris, Peoria	33	95	22	18	.189	8
Talbot, Peoria	41	129	14	24	.186	1
Cooper, Des Moines	54	188	17	35	.185	4
Monroe, Quincy	19	70	7	12	.171	0
Bey, Peoria	20	72	15	12	.166	13
Sonier, Des Moines, Burling'n	33	118	8	19	.161	1
Carisch, Cedar Rapids	25	84	11	13	.154	10
Rafferty, Bur., Quincy, Peoria	26	91	5	14	.153	0
Groves, Peoria	18	6	7	9	.147	2

FIELDING AVERAGES.

Players and Clubs.	Games	Put Outs	Assists	Errors	Passed Balls	Per cent.
CATCHERS.						
Dugdale, Peoria, Burlington	43	179	45	1	5	.973
Fuller, Cedar Rapids	124	512	118	16	12	.957
Sullivan, Dubuque	122	536	149	44	34	.952
Traffley, Quincy	45	157	41	6	8	.934
Collins, St. Joseph	86	351	64	9	22	.930
Quinn, Rockford, Peoria	95	383	92	19	22	.920
Graver, Quincy	57	168	48	19	3	.907
Huff, Rockford	72	286	73	27	11	.904
Lohman, Des Moines	111	454	158	38	28	.901
Hausen, St. Joseph	27	127	29	12	6	.896
D. Williams, Burlington	66	252	98	20	21	.895
Seisler, Peoria	28	96	25	7	8	.889
Raffert, Burl't'n, Qu'cy, Peoria	25	99	32	12	6	.879
Berryhill, Burlington	19	72	19	4	10	.866
Messmer, Burlington	15	52	18	3	12	.823

Players and Clubs.	Games	Put Outs	Assists	Errors	Per Cent.
FIRST BASEMEN.					
Kreig, Des Moines	16	120	8	1	.992
Klusman, St. Joseph	118	1222	53	20	.984
Lutenburg, Quincy	98	1064	60	18	.984
Pace, Des Moines	23	220	9	4	.982
Morrissey, Dubuque	79	811	36	19	.978
McCauley, Rockford	20	204	8	5	.976
Hutchison, Cedar Rapids	126	1184	67	37	.971
Wright, Peoria	117	1183	36	42	.966
Berryhill, Burlington	28	298	10	11	.964
Purvis, Des Moines	47	447	26	19	.961
Kane, Burlington	73	693	26	30	.959
Kling, Rockford	75	721	32	36	.954
Dixon, Dubuque	31	297	17	16	.951
Wilson, Des Moines	38	347	17	19	.950
Huff, Rockford	15	138	5	10	.934
SECOND BASEMEN.					
Fisher, Cedar Rapids	124	309	356	36	.948
Viox, St. Joseph	114	287	345	36	.946
J. O'Connell, Quincy	124	264	381	44	.936
Mohler, Des Moines	121	422	384	57	.933
Cantillon, Dubuque	71	197	196	28	.933
Truby, Rockford Peoria	52	158	153	33	.904
Healy, Burlington	92	233	293	57	.902
T. O'Connell, Dubuque	30	68	86	17	.897
Wolverton, Dubuque	17	26	48	8	.891
Warner, Rockford	95	234	272	53	.881
Long, Peoria	15	58	38	12	.880
Ebright, Peoria	17	44	50	13	.878
Neville, Peoria	20	45	73	17	.874
Violet, Burlington	30	80	98	27	.868
Freck, Peoria	15	15	37	10	.838
THIRD BASEMEN.					
McCormick, Quincy	54	102	124	12	.949
Esterquest, Rockford	46	59	112	13	.929
Hill, Cedar Rapids	120	167	224	44	.898
Wolverton, Dubuque	81	106	166	37	.880
Ferguson, Quincy	50	80	102	25	.879
Burke, Peoria	102	169	229	55	.878
Berryhill, Burlington	45	58	86	20	.878
Dundon, Dubuque	42	60	90	21	.877
Flaherty, Rockford	105	137	224	50	.859
Sawyer, St. Joseph	123	163	257	74	.850
Bradley, Burlington	18	38	35	14	.839
Hickey, Des Moines	118	193	248	85	.838
Mesmer, Burlington	20	20	34	15	.782
Violet, Burlington	20	25	47	26	.734
SHORTSTOPS.					
Berte, Quincy	99	181	362	44	.925
Esterquest, Rockford	69	142	240	33	.920
Breen, Burlington	111	276	377	77	.894
Francis, Peoria	15	42	47	11	.890
Parrott, Dubuque	15	36	50	11	.886
Dundon, Dubuque	74	181	235	58	.877
Oswald, Peoria	97	171	321	76	.866
J. Williams, St. Joseph	118	222	340	87	.865
Wheelock, Des Moines	63	94	181	43	.864
Kennedy, Cedar Rapids	121	262	342	102	.855
Babbitt, Rockford	58	78	172	43	.853
McCreadie, Des Moines	57	101	126	42	.843
Sharp, Dubuque	24	29	67	20	.827
Samuels, Burlington	18	24	52	18	.808
OUTFIELDERS.					
Newman, Rockford, St. Joseph	110	248	21	6	.978
Kitson, Burlington	21	30	2	1	.969
Jackson, Quincy	33	82	7	4	.956
Cole, Cedar Rapids, St. Joseph	125	337	17	19	.949
McCready, Des Moines	54	94	11	7	.937
Kinlock, St. Joseph	69	150	18	12	.936
Connors, Peoria	114	286	23	22	.933
Risley, St. Joseph	40	80	9	7	.927

Players and Clubs.	Games	Put Outs	Assists	Errors	Per Cent.
OUTFIELDERS.					
Van Buren, Cedar Rapids	122	271	19	23	.926
Donovan, Rockford, Quincy	116	220	20	20	.923
Ferguson, Rockford, Des Moines	52	124	5	11	.921
Visner, Rockford, Des Moines	69	120	7	11	.920
Flood, Cedar Rapids	105	167	22	17	.917
Groves, Peoria	18	31	2	3	.916
Waldron, St Joseph	112	154	19	16	.915
McCarthy, Des Moines	46	85	4	9	.908
McQuaid, Dubuque	114	257	23	29	.906
McGreevey, Quincy	27	58	9	7	.906
Sweeney, Dubuque, Quincy	94	193	19	23	.902
Gallagher, Peoria, Rockford	80	170	5	15	.902
Baer, Dubuque	116	184	26	23	.901
Babbit, Rockford	25	48	3	6	.894
White, Burlington	84	176	16	23	.893
McCann, Burlington	55	79	12	11	.892
Bey, Peoria	20	22	3	3	.892
Frisbie, Quincy	114	219	10	28	.891
McKibben Des Moines	46	103	3	13	.890
T. O'Connell Dubuque	15	2	3	3	.884
Phillips, Quincy	106	213	6	29	.883
Violet, Burlington, Rockford	69	115	6	18	.870
Andrews, Des Moines	80	113	7	21	.869
Donnelly, Cedar Rapids	22	35	5	6	.869
Letcher, Des Moines	23	47	3	8	.862
Lippert, Burlington	87	145	19	27	.858
Pace, Des Moines	31	42	6	8	.857
Dillon, Rockford	86	173	13	32	.853
Hartsell, Burlington	2	43	2	8	.849
Seisler, Peoria	86	123	15	25	.846
Streit Dubuque	20	25	2	6	.818

PITCHERS' RECORDS.

Players and Clubs.	Games	Ave Runs Scored	Ave Runs Earned	Total F'ld'g Chances	Per Ct Chcs Accepted
Pardee, St Joseph	25	4.32	1.74	83	.915
McDougal, Cedar Rapids	35	4.45	1.41	90	.955
Streit, Dubuque	30	6.06	1.47	93	.892
Roach, Peoria	44	5.16	1.41	92	.869
Meredith, St. Joseph	41	4.65	1.73	12'	.881
Carisch, Cedar Rapids	25	5.92	1.19	72	.944
Mahaffy, Cedar Rapids	40	5.10	1.54	116	.905
Mauck, Des Moines	44	5.64	1.84	121	.942
Kane, St. Joseph	18	7.15	2.22	47	.914
Sonier, Des Moines, Burlington	30	6.02	2.12	90	.911
Anderson, Rockford	27	5.00	1.56	76	.908
Burris, Peoria	23	5.93	2.29	62	.935
Underwood, Rockford	42	6.33	1.74	12-	.921
Butler, Dubuque	31	7.21	2.21	86	.941
Talbot, Peoria	33	6.66	2.07	8	.901
Risley, St. Joseph	33	5.63	1.96	119	.966
Smith, Dubuque	18	6.64	1.80	54	.925
Bubser, Rockford	16	7.15	2.15	38	.921
Cooper, Des Moines	50	5.35	2.25	123	.918
Kitson, Burlington	32	7.16	2.01	118	.912
McGreevey, Quincy	42	5.71	2.38	134	.917
Hackett, Quincy	39	5.73	2.37	143	.902
Coons, Burlington	38	7.56	3.55	121	.933
Hanson, Peoria	15	7.01	2.00	40	.900
Donnelly, Cedar Rapids	25	6.36	2.21	68	.926
Monroe, Quincy	19	5.63	3.10	78	.948
Nonomaker, Dubuque, Quincy	42	6.51	2.66	105	.923

A special meeting of the Western League was held Dec. 19, at Chicago, Ill. Those present were: President Ban B. Johnson, J. H. Manning, Kansas City; G. H. Schmelz and C. H. Saulspaugh, Minneapolis; Charles A. Comiskey, St. Paul; M. R. Killelea, Milwaukee; G. A. Van Derbeck, Detroit; T. J. Loftus, Columbus, and W. F. C. Golt, Indianapolis. The delegates were in session several hours.

Cricket.

THE VISITING ENGLISH TEAM played the first test match with a combined eleven of Australia Dec. 13 to 17, inclusive, at Sydney, New South Wales, and won by nine wickets, the respective totals being: England, 551 and 95 for one wicket; Australia, 408 and 237. A cablegram states that the visitors' victory was due mainly to the brilliant batting and the remarkable endurance of K. S. Ranjitsinhji, who, rising from a sick bed, batted for two days under a broiling sun, making 177 runs, the highest individual score of the contest. The match began with a protest by the captain of the English team against the action of the Sydney cricket authorities in ordering a postponement of play, owing to the bad weather. This was followed by the hooting of the English team in the course of the contest by the spectators, because the visitors' cricket keeper put out the home team's top scorer by a bit of sharp practice.

THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT CRICKET LEAGUE and the New York Cricket Association had a joint entertainment Dec. 15, at Columbia Hall, in this city, and presented the championship pennants and the various prizes for batting and bowling to their respective winners. The first eleven of the New Jersey Athletic Club was awarded the pennant of the Metropolitan District Cricket League, and retain possession for another year of the Metropolitan Cup, a handsome silver trophy. C. H. Clarke and M. R Cobb, of the champion team, were awarded the prizes won respectively in batting and bowling. The Brooklyn Club was given the championship pennant of the New York Cricket Association, and the prizes for batting and bowling went to G. A. Gittens, of the New Jersey Athletic Club, and J. H. West, of the Paterson Club, respectively. G. A. Gittens also received a special prize for making the highest score in a championship game.

THE PHILADELPHIA CLUB held its annual meeting Dec. 15, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Edward S. Buckley Jr.; vice president, Henry H. Kingston; secretary, John H. Whittaker. The annual report of the directors showed the first eleven to have played twenty-one games last season, of which ten were won, seven lost and four drawn. G. Lippincott and T. H. Dixon led in batting, while J. Q. Tingley and S. Welsh excelled in bowling for the first eleven. P. N. Leroy led in both batting and bowling for the junior eleven. J. Q. Tingley was awarded a special prize bat, in view of the splendid average attained by him in bowling for the first and second elevens, as well as for the junior eleven.

THE PATERSON CLUB has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: President, James W. McKee; vice president, J. W. Taylor; secretary, F. G. Warburton; treasurer, J. M. Denton. The first eleven of the club sustained only one defeat out of twenty games played last season. J. E. Backus has the best batting average, having made 253 runs in eight innings. J. G. Warburton ranks second in batting, having made 390 runs in twenty-one innings, being not out three times. J. H. West has the best bowling average, taking sixty-seven wickets at a cost of 293 runs, while J. Robertson ranks second with fifty-three wickets for 257 runs.

THE ST. GEORGE CLUB, the oldest cricket organization of this city, seems to have gone out of existence. It first occupied grounds, about sixty years ago, in the vicinity of Broadway and Thirty-first Street—then a district of vacant lots and fields—and next played at the Red House Grounds, Second Avenue and One Hundred and Sixth Street, in this city. For forty odd years the club had its headquarters at Hoboken, N. J., having had at various times four playing grounds in different sections of that town, one of which was on the site of the old Beacon race course.

THE FACT that cricket was played in Boston, Mass., almost ninety years ago is shown by the existence of a little pamphlet bearing date May 1, 1809, and entitled "By Laws for the Government of the Boston Cricket Club." It also contains the laws of cricket as then adopted by the Marylebone Cricket Club, and the names of the officers of the club: President, Andrew Allen; vice president, John Richards; secretary, John R. Parker. How long the club existed is not known.

MARCUS H. TALBOT, whose death was announced in a recent issue, was at one time a member of the first eleven of the St. George Club, of this city, and took part in the international contest with the English amateur eleven headed by W. G. Grace, in October, 1872, at Hoboken, N. J. He served as secretary of the club in 1873.

F. L. ALTEMUS won the prize presented for bowling by the Belmont Club, of Philadelphia, Pa., having the fine record of twenty-six wickets captured at a cost of 190 runs. He also ranks second in batting, having scored 221 runs in ten innings. T. R. Reaney was awarded the prize for batting, having scored 136 runs in eight innings, being not out two times.

J. J. HURLEY, who ranked thirty odd years ago as one of the best batsmen in Philadelphia, died Dec. 8, at his residence in that city. He captained for several seasons the Chippewa Club, which had its grounds at Camac's Wood, but soon abandoned the game.

AT A RECENT MEETING of the Associated Cricket Clubs of Philadelphia, Pa., the Germantown Club was awarded the Halifax Cup, Club Record Cup and the Radnor Cup, the last named being contended for annually by junior elevens.

AN ENGLISH DICTIONARY has the following curious definition of a bye: "A play or shot in cricket in which the batsman fails to strike the ball, and the wicket keeper behind him does not catch it."

J. ALLISON SCOTT and Harry B. Thayer are members of the committee which will supervise cricket at the University of Pennsylvania next season.

Wheeling.

The Clipper Annual for 1898

Will be on sale at all the news depots during the week commencing Jan. 3. It will be found to cover as thoroughly as ever the wide field that is included in its province, while it is of greater bulk than heretofore. The sporting records which it contains, and which are recognized the world over as standard authority, have been carefully revised to date, and will be found as complete as ever, while their absolute reliability cannot be called in question. In addition to this and other attractive features of the book, including a very full sporting chronology for the year just closing, the Annual is handsomely embellished with portraits of champions in different branches of sport, both afield and afloat. Look out for it.

Death of "Choppy" Warburton.

A cablegram from London, Eng., dated Dec. 18, announces the death of the veteran runner and trainer, James E., alias "Choppy," Warburton. He was born in Blackburn, Eng., over fifty-five years ago, and it was there that he, on May 29, 1880, made the English professional record of 1h. 56m. 38s. for running twenty miles, which still stands to his credit. He afterwards visited America, chiefly for the purpose of contending against Patrick Byrnes, who, while a soldier in Her Majesty's service, stationed at Halifax, N. S., in 1879, was credited with having, in a trial against time, ran twenty miles in 1h. 54m. Soon after Warburton's arrival on our shores a match between them was effected, which was decided at the old grounds of the original Manhattan Athletic Club, at Eighth Avenue and Fifty-sixth Street, this city, when "Choppy" won with ridiculous ease, his opponent not finishing, and claiming not to be in condition. Subsequently Warburton took part in several races against professional runners in this country, in one of which, a three hours' event at Springfield, Mass., Nov. 29, 1882, he won with 25½ miles to his credit, John Hourihan finishing second, with 24¼ miles, and Dennis Donovan third. Previously to becoming a professional deceased was very prominent as an amateur distance runner in England, and in 1879 won the championship at four miles. He was the possessor of many valuable trophies, cups, medals and so on, which he took great pride in exhibiting. The last running event in which he took part, we believe, was a ten miles handicap for veterans over fifty years old, which took place in London, Nov. 28, 1892, and was handsomely won by Warburton in 1h. 1m. 43⅗s., W. Shipley finishing second and R. Bullivant third. Afterwards he became identified with 'cycling as a trainer and manager, in which capacity he did yeoman's service for J. W. Scofield, Arthur Linton and Jimmy Michael, he taking hold of the latter in the Fall of 1894, after the Welsh midget had won his first big race, at one hundred miles, in London. Michael accepted the terms offered, and next season Jimmy won nearly every one of the many events in which he participated in the French capital, all the best French riders going down before him. Late in the following year Michael and Warburton got into trouble with the National 'Cyclists' Union, of England, over the result of a race in England which Michael failed to finish, and it was subsequently asserted by disappointed friends of the little Welshman that his trainer had "dosed" him. This Warburton denied, and the trouble between them had not been settled when "Choppy" unexpectedly passed away. His son, James Warburton, is now in this country, having come over shortly before the recent six days' race in Madison Square Garden, and being one of Teddy Hale's attendants in that event. He also leaves a brother, George W. Warburton, who has resided for many years at Rockingham, N. C., where he is connected with the Peedee Cotton Mills. In *The Sporting Life*, of London, dated Dec. 8, deceased offered to match an unknown rider to concede any man in the world fifteen yards in one mile, with or without pacemakers; also to match a lady 'cyclist to make a like concession to any other lady in the world, or a lap start in a one hour's race, the races to be decided in America or France.

Orton Has Been Reinstated.

The charges of professionalism which have been pending against George W. Orton, the middle distance runner, ever since the cross country run at Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, Pa., under the management of the National Swimming Association, have been returned as not proven, and Orton has been placed in good standing again. Orton made affidavit that he had never received compensation or reward, in any form, for the display, exercise or example of his skill or knowledge of any athletic exercise, and the charge that he was openly advertised as a physical instructor of the Eastburn Academy for a consideration was denied in affidavits made by him and by George Eastburn, principal of the academy.

W. T. LETTS, paced by Earle Reynolds, Gus Pupke and George G. Hemmingway, is stated to have skated two miles at the Ice Palace, this city, night of Dec. 20, in 5m. 57⅗s. The management will not, however, vouch for the correctness of the stated size of the track, nine laps to the mile. There was a big crowd present.

THE Greater New York Bowling Club was organized at a meeting of crack ten pin knockers in this city, night of Dec. 20. Dr. H. Timm was elected president, the other officers to be selected at the next meeting, to be held on Jan. 9.

JAMES A. GRAHAM won a twenty-seven hours' race at Medina, N. Y., ending Dec. 18, he being credited with covering 120 miles; Van Wick second, 103 miles.

The Turf.

Racing at New Orleans.

Dec. 13.—First race—Six furlongs—Albia, 105, Barrett, 7 to 1, won; Sweet Cream, 105, Dolan, 10 to 1, second; The Editor, 105, Dean, 6 to 1, third. Time, 1:31¼......Second race—Selling, six and a half furlongs—Van Brunt, 112, Caywood, 5 to 2, won; Carlotta C., 102, Burns, evan, second; Peacemaker, 107, Combs, 5 to 1, third. Time, 1:35......Third race—Selling, one mile—Swordsman, 97, Sheppard, 5 to 2, won; Pete Kitchen, 101, Songer, 6 to 5, second; Con Reagan, 108, Aker, 8 to 1 third. Time, 2:00......Fourth race—selling, six furlongs—Lexington Pirate, 110, Nutt, 4 to 5, won; Al Lone, 100, Campbell, 5 to 1, second; Dave S, 96, Hicks, 40 to 1, third. Time, 1:26......Fifth race—Selling, seven and a half furlongs—Ben Waddell, 111, Campbell, 7 to 10, won; Bust-Up, 103, Dean, 10 to 1, second; Floridas, 98, Combs, 3 to 1, third Time, 1:52½.

Dec 14.—First race—Selling, six furlongs—Ilia, 86, Rose, 4 to 1, won; Oresua 90, Dugan, 8 to 1, second; Jolly Son, 94, Songer, 11 to 5 third. Time, 1:23¼......Second race—Five furlongs—Dunster, 103, Combs, 7 to 5, won; Chiffon, 103, Smith, 20 to 1, second; Octave, 103, Burns, 7 to 1, third. Time, 1:10......Third race—Selling, six furlongs—Uncas, 95, Burns, even, won; Vanesa, 90, Clay, 10 to 1, second; Alice C., 88, Lines, 40 to 1, third. Time, 1:23......Fourth race—Six and a half furlongs—Sliga, 102, Burns, 2 to 5, won; Tom Elmore, 102, James, 100 to 1, second; Balkline, 114, Aker, 5 to 2, third. Time, 1:31¾......Fifth race—Selling, one mile—Dockshader, 103, Hicks, 5 to 1, won; Viscount, 103, Burns, 1 to 2, second; Elnia, 96, Songer, 15 to 1, third. Time, 1:54¼.

Dec. 15.—First race—Six furlongs—St. Roque, 102, Burns, 6 to 5, won; Dave S., 104, C. Clay, 3 to 1, second; Brown Berry, 107, Walker, 60 to 1, third. Time, 1:22¾......Second race—Selling, five furlongs—Ben Frost, 101, Burns, 8 to 5, won; Tole Simmons, 103, Aker, 12 to 1, second; Lady Irene, 109, Scherrer, 9 to 10, third. Time, 1:07......Third race—Preliminary Derby, six furlongs—Presbyterian, 118, Burns, won; Surmount, 110, Walker, 7 to 1, second; Saratoga, 108, Scherrer, 20 to 1, third; Dinsmore, 112, T. Powers, 20 to 1, fourth. Time, 1:20¾......Fourth race—Selling, one mile—Ben Waddell, 113, Campbell, 3 to 1, won; Lexington Pirate, 103, Nutt, even, second, Glenmoyne, 107, Combs, 7 to 1, third. Time, 1:51½......Fifth race—Selling, one mile—Serf, 105, Dunn, 3 to 1, won; Gaston, 89, Reitz, 7 to 1, second; Floridas, 98, Combs, 7 to 1. third. Time, 1:52.

Dec. 16.—First race—Six furlongs, Sedan, 94, Burns, 6 to 1, won; Alice C., 96, Lines, 6 to 1, second: Dr. Work, 100, Songer, 11 to 5, third. Time, 1:19¼......Second race—Five furlongs—French Gray, 105, Burns, 7 to 5, won; Chiffon, 105, Smith, 20 to 1, second; Eleanor Holmes, 105, Combs, 9 to 5, third. Time, 1:06......Third race—Selling, six furlongs—John Boone, 102, Aker, 15 to 1, won; Eton Jacket, 102, Combs, 2 to 1, second; June, 105, Wilhite, 12 to 1, third. Time, 1:19¼......Fourth race—Six and a half furlongs—Sligo, 105, Burns, 3 to 5, won; J. A. Grey, 109, Scherrer, 8 to 5, second; Sallie Cliquot 102, Combs, 5 to 1, third. Time, 1:25¾......Fifth race—Selling, one and an eighth miles—Tom Elmore, 109, Vanduson, 13 to 5, won; Billy McKenzie, 99, Aker, 6 to 1, second; Nicolini, 107, Combs, 6 to 1, third. Time, 2:04¾.

Dec. 17.—First race—Six furlongs—Brighton, 106, Gatewood, 12 to 1, won; Fervor, 107, Gilmore, 3 to 1, second; Eton Jacket, 107, Combs, 4 to 5, third. Time, 1:19¼......Second race—Selling, one mile—Seaport, 104, Burns, 2 to 5, won; Dudley E., 98, Nutt, 50 to 1, second; Siva, 102, Combs, 5 to 2, third. Time, 1:50......Third race—Selling, seven and a half furlongs—Trauby, 107, Combs, 6 to 5, won; Blacking Brush, 101, Peterman, 20 to 1, second; Booze, 107, Walker, 4 to 1, third. Time, 1:42......Fourth race—Seven and a half furlongs, selling—Evanatus, 103, Nutt, 50 to 1, won; Mellie, 96, Southard, 30 to 1, second; Viscount, Crowburst, 30 to 1, third. Time, 1:41......Fifth race—One mile—Dave S., 90, Clay, 3 to 1, won; Repeater, 104, Walker, 4 to 1, second; Verdi, 107, Claywood, 6 to 1, third. Time, 1:48½.

Dec. 18.—First race—Selling, six and a half furlongs—Hibernia Queen, 101, Southard, 30 to 1, won; Tradition, 104, Newcom, 50 to 1, second; Glenmoyne, 112, Nutt, 5 to 2, third Time, 1:20......Second race—Six furlongs—Octave, 105, Burns, 5 to 1, won; Dinsmore, 108 Powers, 8 to 1, second; Solution, 105, Songer, 50 to 1, third. Time, 1:18½......Third race—Selling, one and a quarter miles—Charina, 97, Burns, 8 to 5, won; Evanatus, 102, Nutt, 4 to 1, second; Nannie L.'s Sister, 100, Gilmore, 10 to 1, third. Time, 2:15......Fourth race—Six furlongs—Elsie Bramble, 87, C. Clay, 40 to 1, won; Sallie Cliquot, 112, Combs, 6 to 1, second; Gath, 112, Wilhite, 3 to 5, third. Time, 1:17¾......Fifth race—Selling, six furlongs—Stockholm, 111, Aker, 8 to 1, won; Brother Fred, 113, Caywood, 7 to 2, second; Bombardon, 118, Gatewood, 12 to 1, third. Time, 1:18½.

Dec. 20.—First race—Six and a half furlongs—Dudley E., 95, Powers, 7 to 10, won; Mr. Hunt, 95, Dupee, 4 to 1, second; Balance All, 92, Andrus, 20 to 1, third. Time, 1:27......Second race—Selling, six furlongs—French Gray, 106, Scherrer, 2 to 1, won; Pontet Canet, 104, Nutt, 6 to 1, second; Gypceiver, Barrett, 50 to 1, third. Time, 1:18......Third race, selling—One mile and twenty yards—His Brother, Caywood, 5 to 1, won; Elkin, 99, Southard, 4 to 1, second; Jolly Son, 94, Songer, 8 to 1, third. Time, 1:48......Fourth race—Selling, one mile and twenty yards—Mazarine, 113, Powers, 2 to 1, won; Charina, 107, Caywood, 8 to 1, second: What Next, 97, Dupee, 15 to 1, third. Time, 1:47......Fifth race—Selling, one mile—Viscount, 101, Burns, 3 to 2, won; Bushfields, 98, Guitenes, 30 to 1, second; Miss Young, 107, P. Clay, 6 to 1, third. Time, 1:46¼.

The American Turf Congress

Held a special meeting in Cincinnati, O., on Monday, Dec. 20, at which were represented three local tracks and those of Lexington, Louisville Nashville, St. Louis, Little Rock and New Orleans. The following was the action taken as to Pimlico's alleged violation of the Winter racing rules, in regard to which the Congress and the Jockey Club have been apparently at som variance:

Believing that racing was given and participated in at the Pimlico track on Dec. 1, 2, 3 and 4, 1897, under the impression that it was not in controvention of the laws of the Congress or with the intention of violating them, therefore, it is

Resolved by the Congress that same track, and persons and horses that participated in such racing, are hereby reinstated to all the rights and privileges on the tracks of the Congress that they heretofore enjoyed.

Resolved, further, that by this action the Congress does not abate its opposition to or countenance Winter racing as prohibited by by law six, or to restrict its enforcement to suppress that evil, so destructive to the legitimate sport; that the Congress is willing to co-operate with any other authority to utterly destroy it, and invites such co-operation.

The Harlem track at Chicago was admitted. The rule fixing purses for tracks in the vicinity of cities between 200,000 and 500,000 population at $300 was changed to allow $250 purses at the special request of the Crescent City Jockey Club, of New Orleans, which claimed that the yellow fever scare had materially cut down its receipts.

ED. A. TIPTON, acting for Marcus Daly, has purchased Lady Reel, dam of Hamburg, and a brood mare by Rayon d'Or, from S. S. Brown, paying $15,000 for the two. Hamburg's dam was valued at $13,000. Duke & Wishard have bought from John Madden a bay colt two years old, by Rayon d'Or, dam She; bay colt two, by Lisbon, dam. imp. St. Blaise, and a bay yearling colt, by Falsetto, dam Lisbon.

FRANK B. HARPER, of Lexington, Ky., on Dec. 9, lost by death his noted stallion, Jils Johnson, twenty-one years old, by Longfellow, dam Fannie Wells, by imp. Sovereign, second dam Reel, by imp. Glencoe. Jils Johnson was a great race horse, and sired many good performers, among them being Jacobin, Faithful, Jilsey, and others of lesser note.

The Ring.

JIMMY BARRY, of Chicago; White, his second; Watley, the second of the late Walter Croot, of Newcastle, Eng.; B. F. Angle, the manager of the National Sporting Club, and the referee and timekeeper of the boxing match during which Croot was fatally injured, were brought up on remand Dec. 14, at the Bow Street Police Court, London, Eng., on the charge of manslaughter. They were remanded on bail. Their depositions will be sent to the public prosecutor.

JACK DOWNEY AND LARRY BECKER made sport for the patrons of the Polo Athletic Club, in this city, night of Dec. 18, the bout lasting sixteen of the twenty rounds for which it was scheduled, but only a few seconds of the closing round were consumed when Becker received his quietus, administered with the right mauley, which landed with crushing force on the point of the jaw, sending the recipient to the floor.

BILLY WALMSLEY, of Passaic, N. J., and Pete Dorsa, of Greater New York, encountered each other before the Mohawk Athletic Club, of the Borough of Manhattan, on Friday night, Dec. 17, the former being given the decision in the fifteenth round.

THE METROPOLITAN CLUB, of Wheeling, W. Va., has secured John Simcoe, the wrestler, of Cincinnati, O., as match maker, and he has arranged for a contest between Oscar Gardner and Bezenah, to be pulled off Jan. 4.

JIM MACE AND DICK BURGE were at last advices touring England, giving boxing exhibitions, and being introduced on the stage by Mace's former manager, Harry Montague, the suave.

EDDIE CURRY AND BILLY O'DONNELL engaged in a fifteen round glove contest at the arena of the Greenpoint (L. I.) Athletic Club on the night of Dec. 9, the result being a draw.

BOB FITZSIMMONS, upon receiving from "Kid" McCoy's managers, Dec. 16, a dispatch asking him if he would make a match with the latter in case McCoy defeated Dan Creedon, is stated in a dispatch from Milwaukee, Wis., to have pooh poohed the matter, saying: "No, I will not consider the challenge. I am out of the ring for good. That has been fully determined upon. It's not that I have seen my best days, because I am stronger today than ever, but it's because I have determined to never fight again. Even were I so inclined, this beginner, McCoy, would be the last man I'd meet." As Fitzsimmons has repeatedly, since St. Patrick's Day, stated in public that he has finally and permanently retired from the P. R., he may now be credited with being in earnest, so that the title of champion of the world is now in abeyance.

JACK GREEN, of Seattle, Wash., and "Kid" Williams, of San Francisco, Cal., came together at Vancouver, B. C., night of Dec. 17, to fill their contract to fight fifteen rounds with gloves for a purse. About three hundred persons gathered to witness the mill, which lasted but seven rounds, Williams giving up after dislocating his thumb and first finger.

JACK BENNETT AND BILLY ERNST met at Athens, Pa., on Monday night Dec. 20, to fight twenty rounds for a purse. The former did nearly all the work, Ernst showing up in poor shape, and, in the thirteenth round, in which Billy was severely handled and knocked to the floor, the referee stopped the fight, declaring Bennett the victor.

TOM BRODERICK defeated Billy Keefe in the fifth round of what had been scheduled as a twenty round go at the Waverly Club, of Yonkers, N. Y., night of Dec. 20. They were confined to 158 lb in weight.

BILLY PLIMMER and Patsy Haley, the American boxer now in England, have been matched to fight the usual twenty rounds, for a purse and a stake of $1,000 a side, in England, the date not being yet announced.

PADDY SHEEHAN, of Bethlehem, and "Reddy" Connelly, of Carbondale, met at Nanticoke, Pa., night of Dec. 20, and fought for a purse of $200, the former knocking out his opponent in twelve rounds.

Amateur Billiard Tourney.

The first amateur billiard contest ever sanctioned by the Amateur Athletic Union will be held in Madison Square Garden Concert Hall, beginning Jan. 13, and lasting about nine days. This will decide the amateur billiard championship of the metropolitan division, which covers the Greater New York and State of New Jersey east of Trenton. The contest will be under the auspices of the Sportsmen's Association. The Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co. will equip the tournament with their paraphernalia, as a contribution and an encouragement to the movement. It is the desire of the managers to, so far as possible, limit the contest to one representative of each of the leading amateur clubs, thus securing the fastest players in and about New York. The Sportsmen's Association will put up a solid silver cup, specially designed for the occasion, and the Brunswick-Balke-Collender people also will donate a worthy trophy. The Sportsmen's Association will make no extra charge for admission to the contest.

The Freemont (Neb.) Tribune is the first of the country dailies to send its Christmas number to our exchange desk. Ross L. Hammond, its editor, and the hardest working newspaper man in Nebraska, is to be congratulated upon its artistic makeup and scholarly reading matter. Its crowning joy is a Bradley cover, green in background and Greene by inspiration, which reflects great credit upon the man who selected it for use, as well as the artist who designed it. When one considers that Mr. Hammond combines the honors of journalism with the manual labor of conducting a presidential post office, *The Tribune* is a year 'round credit to the bustling city which it advocates and so ably represents.

Aquatic.

JAKE GAUDAUR, the champion sculler of the world, in reply to the rather bombastic challenge of the Australian, Wray, now in England, says that if the latter desires to claim the championship of England he can do so, as he (Gaudaur) will not cross the ocean on the terms offered; but if Wray will make the stake $2,000 he will row him for the championship of the world. If the Australian will consent to have the race at Rat Portage, Mich., Gaudaur will allow him $500 for expenses, and if he insists upon an English course Jake will accommodate him, provided Wray allows him a similar amount to go there. Certainly nothing could be fairer for a champion to offer.

JAMES HASTIE, for many years captain of the Thames Rowing Club, died in London, Eng., Dec. 8, in his forty-ninth year.

A FAIR FELLOW TRAVELER.

FROM THE GERMAN.
BY DUDLEY VAN ZANDT.

"Markham," said one morning our chief of police in the Paris Government building, where I had been busy for some time with the documents concerning the latest dynamite attempt, "Markham, here is at last a good chance for you to distinguish yourself."

Full of expectation, I looked up from my desk and eyed my chief questioningly.

"We must have some one," continued the latter, "who must go to London to see what new deviltry the Anarchists are planning. The danger is, to be sure, great, but the reward for it is also in proportion."

"I am very much obliged to you, Mons. Chaumont," I made haste to reply, as I saw that he paused to observe the effect of his words, "I will certainly do my best."

"All right," rejoined my chief. "I wasn't sure whether you were inclined to accept such a charge, for the risk to be run is no insignificant one, and demands courage and circumspection. However, there are various causes that induced us to let our choice fall on you—you are young, with a charming manner that awakens confidence, and thanks to your English descent and French bringing up, you can pass for a countryman of both nations."

"But as a detective I have hitherto had no experience," I ventured to say.

"That doesn't matter. You go to London, connect yourself there with the Anarchists, join one or several of the clubs there, and give me every two days exact reports of all that is planned and discussed. That's all. Your practice in the clerical work of the office will give you an idea of what you have to do."

I already knew well enough what was desired of me; to be frank, I was not particularly edified by the commission I had received, but refuse the same I could not, nor did I wish to. I did not dislike to be made use of as a detective, but to be a companion of the Anarchists, and to betray their plans afterwards, while I tarried among them, was really more than I had expected.

"When shall I set out?" I asked.

"At the latest, tomorrow. It is best for you to go by the way of Dieppe, and take with you this letter to our authorities there; you will thus have occasion to become acquainted with them. Send us your reports through the embassy. Should, however, a plot be in question that is to be carried out quickly, then come yourself to Paris without delay, and give us oral information about it. Try to procure all photographs of Anarchists to be found in London, and a good piece of advice I give you in addition—don't fall in love with one of the female Anarchists. There are many very pretty women and girls among them!"

"Never fear," I replied, and took leave of my amiable chief, to go and make all preparations for the journey as quickly as possible.

* * * * * * *

In London my mission proved as successful as it could be. From November till March—a long, wretched Winter—I was in the foggy city, which was for me, as an inhabitant of the South of France, doubly lonely and melancholy.

I bore all with patience, however, dreaming of my success, already seeing myself rewarded with the cross of the Legion of Honor, at the head of the Paris police, proud of the achieved prosperity.

Soon after my arrival in London I joined an Anarchist club in Soho Square; later a second one in the Tottenham Court Road neighbourhood, and soon they saw in me one of the most enterprising and energetic members of the association.

It is, indeed, true that none of our plans was carried out, but this was attributed to bad luck, which caused all of our designs to be thwarted.

Our members, who were intrusted with the execution of the formed plans, were arrested the moment they set foot in France.

I never let myself be seen in the building of the French Embassy, and my letters gave all the desired accounts and hints to frustrate the designs of the Anarchists.

"Has any news arrived from Deforgues?" I asked, as I entered the club room in Soho one evening with the most careless air, walking up to Rudolf Stahl, one of our boldest leaders.

"News?" replied the latter, with a vigorous oath—"yes, indeed, and the very worst! There must be a traitor among us; I can't account for it otherwise how they know everything over in France. As soon as one of us is seen it is all over with him. Deforgues and Mr. Schmidt were both pounced upon in Boulogne; Manoni let himself be caught in Havre; so our splendid plan has come to naught again. Now, the only question is to save Contades from the guillotine, and as quickly as possible, as he may be decapitated any day. We must come to some resolution this very evening, else it will be too late."

An hour later we held a meeting, and our executive committee, to which I belonged as a member, deliberated on the situation.

Every face wore a despondent, gloomy look; a general mistrust had arisen, each one regarded the other with stolen glances and seemed to suspect his neighbor.

I, on my own part, mistrusted none, since I knew well enough who had caused all the arrests.

It was finally decided to make a new dynamite attempt; this time, however, it was to carry terror and confusion in all parts of society.

Nothing less was determined than to blow up the police headquarters in Paris, and Stahl, as the most capable and oldest member, was entrusted with the difficult commission to pick out the right people for this perilous undertaking.

The meeting did not break up until three o'clock in the morning, and already at five o'clock I was on the way to Paris.

I had to wait an hour in Newhaven before the tide allowed the steamer to depart for Dieppe.

It was a raw, cold morning, and the deserted waiting room on the pier was none the less inviting. I consoled myself, however, with the thought of the happy performance of my dangerous journey.

I could now calmly and firmly meet all the designs of my bloodthirsty companions. My future was assured. I had only to keep out of the way of my former comrades.

I was disturbed suddenly in my dreaming by a soft touch on my arm.

I have always met the gentle sex with respect and politeness, so when I inform my readers that it was a beautiful young lady who interrupted me in my dreams of the future they will probably infer that suddenly Anarchists, as well as homicidal plots of the same, flew out of my mind, and that I occupied myself exclusively with the said young lady.

The young girl appeared to be from eighteen to nineteen years of age, and was, as I could now perceive, of striking beauty. Tall, with wonderful dark eyes and pale face, she stood before me, looking as if she had been weeping.

"You are going to Paris, monsieur?" she asked me in a pure French.

"Yes, mademoiselle. Can I serve you in any way?"

She looked up at me thankfully before she answered me; then she began in a low, plaintive voice:

"Ah, I am in such distress, monsieur! My brother was to have come with the train from Brighton, which has just arrived, to meet me here, but he has not come."

"Well, he will probably arrive with the next train," I remarked, to appease her.

"But that will be too late, as I wished to go on with him to Paris, and the boat waits no longer."

"It will give me great pleasure, mademoiselle, to take your brother's place and accompany you safely to Paris," I replied, politely.

"You are very kind, monsieur, but I certainly will not be permitted to land in Dieppe, and have difficulties to expect. My brother has our joint passport; but I must be in Paris this evening—my mother lies on her dying bed! How stupid of Eugene to miss the train! What shall I do?"

She concealed her face in her handkerchief and began to cry bitterly.

YOU THOUGHT WE COULDN'T DO IT, BUT WE DID!

RETURN ENGAGEMENT WITHIN FIVE WEEKS TO ROUSING RETURNS.

THE PLACE— GILMORE'S AUDITORIUM, PHILADELPHIA.

THE CAUSE— JOHNNY THE RAYS EMMA.

IN EDGAR SELDEN'S "A HOT OLD TIME."

Actual Receipts, $7,370.75. Think it over! And the week before Christmas, too! GILMORE'S AUDITORIUM AND THE RAY'S "A HOT OLD TIME," get the Money ALL the time.

It is said that sympathy is the sister of love; so let us call it sympathy that took possession of me at the sight of this poor young girl.

I was still thinking what reply I could make by way of consolation when the steamer's bell sounded the warning signal to go aboard.

Suddenly, apparently after a short reflection, the young lady stooped to pick up her black leather traveling bag, and dried her tears.

"Allow me to carry the bag for you?" I begged, and took it from her.

"It is very heavy for its size," said the young girl, evidently noticing my surprise at its weight. "It contains the copper engravings of my brother, real works of art. I cannot trust them to the baggage wagon. Perhaps you have already heard of my brother—his name is Eugene Guerin?"

As I had visited the Paris studios before deciding to follow my present career, the name of Guerin was well known to me. I told her this and other things when we took a seat on the deck and the steamer set itself in motion.

The passage across the Channel was the finest I have ever experienced. A splendid sunny morning had begun, the sea was like a mirror; besides, I had a charming young girl for a fellow traveler, who with her naive tattle whiled away my time in the most agreeable way.

Only now and then the young lady made a serious, pensive face, which I attributed to the illness of her mother.

We talked about everything. I cautiously answered her question as to my position in life, simply telling her that I was employed in a public office.

"You will certainly visit us in Paris, Mons. Marquin?"—thus she pronounced my name, after I had told her the same. "My brother will be glad to make your acquaintance."

"Will not some one else be glad, too, mademoiselle?" I asked, looking at her sharply.

"You are too curious. I will give you the answer to that when we meet again. But now we will soon be there. How shall I get by the custom house and police officials without a pass? Will they hold me?"

"I don't think so, mademoiselle. In the worst case you will be sent back to Newhaven."

"But, monsieur, I must go to Paris, to my dying mother—I must get through at all events."

Now we stood before the gang plank that connected the steamer with the land, on the point of leaving the vessel.

Up on the quay I saw several detectives whom I knew from Paris.

I carried my laprobe thrown over my shoulder, in my hand the young lady's traveling bag.

She laid her hand with gentle timidity on my right arm.

We could only advance slowly, as many passengers had come over with us, and the passports and luggage were subjected to a careful examination.

Now our turn came.

"Hello, Markham!" called my colleague, Chollet, to me, who was expressly sent here from Paris to watch all passengers, "we didn't look for you yet; is there any news?"

"Yes indeed, all kinds; that's the reason I have come over from England myself."

"Ah, madame?" continued Chollet, looking at my companion; "we never knew that you were married, Markham;" at the same time he made a low bow before the young lady.

"I shall be glad to meet my husband's friends in Paris at any time," replied the latter with a charming smile. "Come, Albert, let us make haste, that we may get a good place in the train."

The next moment we were walking quickly along the railway platform, while my fair fellow traveler whispered to me:

"Never, monsieur, shall I forget what you did for me just now."

I could not understand how Mlle. Guerin could lay so much stress upon such a simple form of politeness as I had just shown.

"How agreeable it is to be in a public office! Without your acquaintance with the officials I never would have gotten through."

On my arrival in Paris I took leave of my fascinating fellow traveler, and saw her enter a carriage with her luggage, after I had promised to call on her the next morning to inquire after her mother's condition.

I presented myself forthwith at Police Headquarters, where, of course, a warm greeting awaited me, and I was heartily congratulated on the result obtained after I had communicated the impending *coup*.

In the evening I returned there again to make my exact written report on the latest designs of the Anarchists.

Comfortably seated in the private office of my chief, I was telling him about my experiences and perils, when suddenly the room began to shake—a frightful crash—I still heard the bursting of window panes, the clinking of glass, and a dreadful noise, then my senses forsook me, and I saw and heard nothing more.

When I recovered consciousness I lay in a hospital, terribly disfigured, but, fortunately, without the loss of a limb.

Other occupants of the building had not come off so happily.

A dynamite bomb, as I was told later, had been placed on the ground floor for the police, and had exploded, producing vast destruction and killing several. Luckily, my chief had escaped with only a few scratches.

Directly after the explosion a man was seized, and the contents of a black bottle, which he carried on his person, made his immediate apprehension necessary and led to several other arrests.

My presence, in order to see the prisoners, was indispensable, as they had come from London and I, in any case, must have already come in contact with them.

So soon as the doctor declared that I could leave my bed without injury to my health I was carried to the court room, where the presiding judge wished to confront me with the Anarchists.

I saw Chollet sitting in the ante room and nodded to him, but he did not recognize me, as my whole face was bandaged and only the eyes looked out.

He stared at me when I was carried by him, and followed me into the court room.

The first two prisoners brought in I had never seen in my life; so they were soon led away again.

Then came a lady, who was accompanied by a police officer, carrying a black traveling bag.

The bag seemed to me to be strangely familiar, and I tried to think where I could have seen it already.

"Take off your veil," said the judge to the lady. "Do you recognize this person, Mons. Markham?" he inquired of me.

"Tell the truth, Albert—tell him all you know!" cried the young lady in a loud voice, turning to me and raising her veil.

I wished at this moment that the explsion had killed me also, for I saw before me here the charming young girl, Mlle. Guerin, who looked at me smiling, with a calm air.

I would have fared badly had I been obliged to appear with the three prisoners before a jury; but Mlle. Guerin's truthful description of the whole fact saved me, and even a merry humor seized the entire court when she told of the scene in Dieppe, where I, carrying the fatal bomb in my hand, protected her from arrest and brought her under my especial protection, without a passport, safe and sound to Paris."

"We had recognized him in London during the last days," the young girl had declared, "and we thought we could occupy him best by laying claim to his joint assistance."

All three prisoners were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment, and I lost my so painfully attained position.

WOMAN'S WAY.

SAPSMITH—Some wise old chap said that "a woman will forgive anything but the fact that you do not covet her." Dooced clevah wemark, don't you know.

GRIMSHAW.—Yes; but he should have added that when she discovers that you do covet her she has no further use for you.—*Judge.*

TOBACCO PIPES DIAGNOSED.

If tobacco smoking is justifiable at all on hygienic grounds, it is generally conceded that the pipe is the least injurious means. But tobacco pipes differ considerably in material and shapes, both of which must be important factors in determining the character of the smoke. Thus there is the clay, the meerschaum and the various wooden pipes, the briar, cherry, or myall. Next to the tobacco, therefore, which should always be pure and free from added flavoring, an experiment which is resorted to far too commonly nowadays, probably in many instances to cover an inferior quality of tobacco, the best kind of pipe is a point to be considered. Even assuming that he is smoking good tobacco, the smoker knows how different in character the smoke is when drawn from a clay or a wooden bowl. There is probably a scientific explanation of this fact which must have some bearing on the noxious or innocuous character of the smoke associated with other products of combustion. A soft clay is invariably cool smoking, because the acrid oils obtained on the destructive distillation of the tobacco are absorbed instead of collecting in a little pool, which must eventually, either by the volatilization or by mechanical conveyance, reach the mouth. A particular pipe "smokes hot" not necessarily because the temperature of the smoke is high, but because it favors the passage by one of these means of the oils into the mouth. Meerschaum is another porous material. Again, an old wooden pipe or briar, so dear to inveterate smokers, becomes "smooth smoking" because the pores of the wood widen, and so absorb, as is the case with clay and meershaum, a large proportion of the tobacco oils. Thus an old pipe "sweats," as it is termed—that is, the oil intrudes into the extended pores of the wooden bowl, and at length exudes. Similarly, a hook shaped pipe must be better than a pipe the bowl of which is on the same level as the mouth, for the simple reason that in the former a considerable quantity of the oil is kept back in the U shaped part of the pipe, while in the latter the oil travels easily down the stem. Ebonite stems are in general objectionable because they commonly spoil the true flavor of tobacco smoke. This is most probably due to the sulphur of the ebonite combining with the volatile oils in the smoke. We know instances where ebonite stems have produced distinctly objectionable symptoms in the throat, most probably for the reason just given. Bone or real amber makes a much more satisfactory stem, or the pipes should be of wood throughout. Amber substitutes, and especially celluloid, should be discarded entirely as dangerous, while the flavor of camphor, which these invariably communicate to the smoke, forms a very unpleasant combination. Pipes of special construction cannot be regarded with much favor, such as those which are said to be hygienic and usually contain a so called nicotine absorber. Those smokers which require such auxiliary attachments had better not smoke at all. As a matter of fact tobacco yields little nicotine in the smoke produced on its partial combustion. It is mainly to oils of a tarry and acid character that the toxic symptoms of tobacco smoking are due.—*London Lancet.*

A LIVING FLY TRAP.

"The big alligator in our menagerie," the old circus man said, "didn't always take his feed very well. Sometimes he wouldn't open his mouth at feeding time, and then we had to resort to strategy. Alligators are very sensitive about the nose. When this alligator wouldn't open his mouth we used to rub the top of his nose very gently. That always made him mad, and he'd throw back his upper jaw like a cellar door on hinges. Then we'd throw a chunk of beef, maybe five pounds or so, down his throat, and down would come the cellar door shut again, and he would swallow the beef. In that way we used to give him about twenty-five pounds of beef at a feeding without much difficulty.

"The old alligator was very fond of flies. You might think a fly would be pretty small game for a twelve foot alligator, and one fly would be. But this old alligator would throw his upper jaw back and go to sleep apparently. Flies would light around inside the alligator's mouth just the same as they would anywhere outdoors, and when there were about a million there the alligator would shut his upper jaw down with the flies all inside. Pretty soon he'd throw the cellar door back and set the trap again.

"I've often thought that alligators would make good fly-traps for houses. Of course you'd want to keep any small children there might be in the house away from them, but if you looked out for that I should think they'd be great. I should say that about four twelve-foot alligators could keep a moderate-sized house free of flies all summer without the slightest trouble."—*New York Sun.*

HE PAID THE PRICE OF GUILT.

For a week the guilty wretch had possessed his secret in silence, starting at every sound and catching his breath at every shadow. Yet he told himself that he was quite safe; that no one knew of his guilt but himself; they might guess, but they could prove nothing. He would do it again if he had the chance. It was nature's first law to protect one's self.

He had thought it all out—how he would act and what he would say. Yet when the first breath of suspicion was directed toward him he started and turned pale, and all the defence which he had so elaborately constructed fell to the ground when his wife turned her questioning eyes upon him, and said:

"John, did you mail that letter to mother I gave you last week?"

"Yep."

"Are you sure?"

"Yep."

"She never received it."

"Yep—I mean ——"

"John! Don't swear."

"She says it is very strange."

"Yep—er—perhaps it was lost in the mail?"

"Yes; that must be it," mused his wife. "I wrote mother to postpone her visit a few months, and I have just received a letter saying that we might expect her today."

Once alone, the wretched man prayed that a brick block might fall upon him.—*San Francisco Examiner.*

A CONTEMPTIBLE TRICK.

"My wife caught me last night. When I come home late I usually sit down on the top step of my porch and hunt for my latch key. She says I never got home until after midnight. I say it's before. She caught me all right last night!"

"How was that?"

"Just at midnight she sneaked out and painted the top step."—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

A BAD FALL.

"Papa, did the angels really bring baby down from heaven?"

Father—Of course, my son; but why do you ask such a question?

"Well, from the way he's howled ever since he's been here I thought they must have just dropped him."—*Brooklyn Life.*

INFALLIBLE EVIDENCE.

"He is a very poor judge of human nature," remarked Miss Cayenne, thoughtfully.

"What leads you to that conclusion?"

"He has such a good opinion of himself."—*Washington Star.*

KLONDIKE NECESSITIES.

I am amazed at the popular ignorance concerning a proper outfit for the Klondike. I have before me several newspaper lists of articles necessary for the outfit. The longest contains only three hundred and forty-seven items. How ridiculously inadequate!

Now, I flatter myself that I know something about the matter. I have been hunting for gold all my life, although I have seldom obtained anything better than silver and dirty bank bills. Moreover, I was a miner for a number of years. I can mention a number of things that should be added to those lists, and which are just as useful as half the articles now on them.

In the first place, take along your full dress suit. Gold hunting is adventure pure and simple, and almost every adventurer I have seen wears a full dress suit. In fact, often he possesses no other. Cigarettes should be added to go with the dress suit. Also patent leathers and monocle. The latter is also useful while actually looking for the gold.

None of the lists mention whiskey. Take lots of it. It is weary work waiting for the gold to turn up, and you want to pass away the time as happily as possible. There is no danger attending its use, for as soon as you find gold you can take the gold cure.

Take along at least twenty pounds of axle grease to rub on the runners of your sled. It will make the sled slip over the snow easily. Moreover, you can eat it if your grub runs short.

Every list I have seen contains a cooking stove. Remember that you cannot cook over a campfire. For the same reason you should take along a large base-burner heating stove. A camp fire wouldn't keep you warm. In the days of '49 every miner camp was supplied with steam or furnace heat. However, you can't expect to live as luxuriously as they did.

Take along plenty of canned goods. A rich and varied menu is essential. Don't forget a good cook book. There is not a cowboy's camp or miner's cabin in all the West that is not supplied with one of these aids to civilization.

Take along plenty of linen, as there are few laundries *en route*, and don't forget your nighty. You have got to sleep there just as you would anywhere else. A bath robe is also an aid to modesty if you intend to bathe during your sojourn in Alaska. You will soon discover that there are some that bathe, but there are others. Take along plenty of cards and games. Progressive euchre parties are all the rage in Dawson City. Likewise, take a good library, an encyclopedia and an unabridged dictionary.

Don't forget your silk hat.

Take along plenty of starch for your linen. In the days of the Argonauts men suffered keenly because of a lack of cleansing material. One of the saddest songs of the old days, at which every '49er used to weep, began as follows:

"Good-bye, old standing collar,
With all your pride and starch,
I've worn you from September
Till the seventeenth of March."

Also don't forget to take along a small sack of flour and a few pounds of bacon.—*The Yellow Book.*

HARD ON THE IRISHMAN.

GENTLEMAN (to an Irishman)—Well, Pat, I see you have a small garden.

PAT—Yes, sir.

"What are you going to set in it for next year?"

"Nothing, sir. I set it with potatoes last year, and not one of them came up."

"That's strange. How do you explain it?"

"Well, sir, the man next door to me set his garden full of onions."

"Well, had that anything to do with your potatoes not growing?"

"Yes, sir. Bedad, them onions was that strong that my potatoes couldn't see to grow for their eyes watering."—*Answers.*

IN MUCH THE SAME BOAT.

She looked trustingly into his eyes and smiled.

"Papa says I shall never have one cent of his money if I marry you," she said, "but I am glad of that. I prefer to owe everything to my husband."

"But you forget," he returned, nervously, "that that will make it necessary for your husband to owe everything, too."—*Chicago Post.*

UNFAIR ACCUSATION.

FULLER BOOSE—I have been accused of drinking like a fish, but dat's false on de face of it.

TANKSEY—How's dat, pard?

FULLER BOOSE—Cause ter drink like er fish I'd have to be wet all over, an' dat's a condition I wuz never yet knowed to be in, see?—*Truth.*

"IT'S HIGHWAY ROBBERY!" stormed the customer, and he flew out of the door. The coal baron adjusted his glasses, and looked carefully at the scales. "No," he said, softly, to himself, "it isn't high-weigh robbery."

PROFESSIONALS' BUREAU.

Wants of Managers and Performers, Open Dates, etc.—See Advertisements.

DRAMATIC.

C. S. Clarke wants a complete repertory co. and a pianist.

"Master and Man," "Harbor Lights" and other plays can be rented from Howard and Doyle.

The Rays played a return engagement at the Auditorium, Philadelphia, last week, to over seven thousand dollars.

An attraction is wanted by S. M. Bear to open the new theatre at Sioux Falls, S. D.

Heuck's Opera House, Cincinnati, can be leased.

Gilmore and Leonard continue playing successfully in "Hogan's Alley" under the management of Eugene Wellington.

The Columbia Theatre Co. and Frawley Dramatic Stock Co. are among the successes of San Francisco.

The Spooners Repertory Co., headed by Edna May Spooner and Cecil Spooner, are receiving very favorable press comments throughout the country for their elegant productions. Manager B. S. Spooner is booking time for next season in the larger houses.

"Out of Sight" is being toured by J. J. McGlynn and J. J. Magee.

Dramatic people are wanted by Ben R. Warner, E. H. Willard, Geo. M. Noble, Machan, Homer Needles, H. B. Morgan, Frank W. Nason, W. L. Potts, Hoyt's Comedy Co., C. C. Parks, F. E. D., J. Leslie.

At Liberty: James McMillan, Lottie Carman, Little Emily, Edna Farrell, John Bessey, W. B. Fredericks, Blanche Buffington, Tedd Brackett, Lew A. Warner, Ida Olivett, Sidney Blair, James J. Walls, Helena M. Wells, Clyde B. Callicotte.

MUSICAL.

Compositions by such song writers as Ford and Bratton, Maurice Levi, R. H. Barker, Dillon Brothers, Maxwell and Simpson, Ben Harney, Dave Reed Jr. and Hattie Starr are always in demand. M. Witmark & Sons have cornered some of the best productions of these and innumerable other writers of catchy melodies, and this week present a list of the cream of their vocal issues in a mammoth advertisement. Professionals can secure any five of these songs free, upon sending card or programme and ten cents for mailing. A list of instrumental compositions, arrangements for mandolin, guitar, banjos, etc., band orchestrations and incidental music is also supplied. They can also furnish Wm. Devere's "Jim Marshall's New Pianner" collection of poems.

"Mullaly's Grocery Bill" and "My Old Village Home" can be ordered from the F. W. King Music Co.

"Life's Game of See Saw," which is being featured by Andrew Mack, Lydia Titus and Kittie Rampone can be ordered from the American Music Publishing Co.

"Sweet Ruby Ray" is advertised by the Sweet Music Co.

"Gloriana," march song; "Somebody's Sweetheart," "Sweet Nola Shannon" and "Queen of Shinbone Alley" can be supplied by Will Rossiter for ten cents each. Song books are one dollar per hundred.

E. N. Guckert invites singers to send for his "Hush a By My Pickaninny."

"He Told Her Fairy Stories," now being sung by Marie Jansen, and "I Love Yer, My Love, I Do," Flo Irwin's success, are issued by the Brooks & Denton Co.

The Chase Lister Theatre Co. want a pianist who can sing baritone in quartet.

At liberty, O. V. Burr's orchestra, Grant Nichols, Chas. Coons, O. W. Wilkinson, W. W. Wilson.

W. R. Carr has issued "Who Is That Pretty Girl?"

VAUDEVILLE AND MINSTRELS.

The Gillams are out with P. T. Wright's Comedy Co.

McPhee and Hill will produce a double acrobatic act and are at liberty.

Gorman and Fields do an Irish comedy boxing act and can be engaged.

Vaudeville and novelty acts are wanted for the Summer at the Robison Park Theatre, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Delmore and Lee can be seen at the Star Theatre, New York, this week.

O. K. Sato received many favorable notices for his work at the Orpheum Theatre, San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Lote Silver are illustrating the latest song successes and are booked for a series of dates at leading houses. They have the weeks of Jan. 24 and 31 open.

Joe Hardman, comedian and parody singer, can be engaged.

The Van Aukens, Harry and Wm., can be engaged to produce their acrobatic act.

Howard and Bland will close with the Rose Sydell Co. Jan. 1, and can be engaged.

E. F. Rush has removed his offices to the Knickerbocker Theatre Building, New York.

McMahon and King are at liberty.

John and Nellie McCarthy can be booked to dispel the blues.

Attractions are offered advantageous terms to book time at King's Star Theatre, Ottawa, Ont., by Lee E. King, manager.

Teal and Baker have open time in January.

Attractions can secure time at the Gaiety Theatre, Troy, N. Y.

The De Varos, in their sensational comedy bar act, are with the Irwin Brothers' Show.

Raymond and West, blackface comedy sketch duo, can be engaged.

W. J. Fisher, basso soloist and pianist, can be engaged.

Lenton Brothers announce their departure for the Orrin Brothers' Circus, Dec. 18.

Carpenter and Castle, Celtic comedians, can fill dates or join a company.

Pat Reilly and F. D. Bryan, of the Reilly & Wood's big show, extend the compliments of the season to their friends.

Gorman and West are playing dates.

Gallagher and Evans are recommended for their knockabout act by Manager Laurent Howard.

Caicedo's act is one of the features at Koster & Bial's, New York.

Gruet, Beers and Gruet are at Hyde & Behman's Theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y., this week.

Wagner and Arnim have Jan. 3 open.

Junius Bernard can be engaged.

The Musical Ravens are at liberty.

The Wonderland Museum, Buffalo, will be opened by J. E. Girard Feb. 7. He wants curio attractions, also dramatic and vaudeville performers. All privileges are offered for rent.

The Harvey Sisters Bright Burlesquers, which will be headed by Gracey and Burnett for next season, are booking time. Specialties and chorus ladies are wanted.

Leona Lewis has severed her connection with Robert Fulgora's Hopkins' Trans-Oceanics, and is prepared to fill dates according to contracts. She has a few open weeks.

Conroy and Edwards are with O'Hooligan's Wedding" Co.

Specialties are wanted by Capt. G. W. Smith, Louva Harmon, C. H. Desmond, Dr. F. Gorton, A. D. Cristy, Sioux Indian Medicine Co., Dr. Geo. P. Wood, Dr. H. Van, Dr. Grey, Joseph Wyatt, German Medicine Co., Palace Museum.

At Liberty: Will McKay Shearer, Dr. Chas. E. Franck, Vernelo, Seeker and Wilkes, W. R. Pattie, Fadilla, Frank J. Shea.

Prepared cork can be supplied by Mrs. Ed. Mills.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Show printing of every description is furnished by the H. C. Saffen Show Print.

Barnum & Bailey offer four great Dane dogs for sale.

New Edison films are advertised by the Edison Phonograph Co.

A combination sleeper is offered for sale by Lou Ducloe.

The cineograph and stereopticon combined are supplied by S. Lubin for one hundred dollars. He also offers a home use machine for twenty-two dollars.

Howard & Sheaffe advertise fight films cheap.

Mrs. J. B. McMahon offers circus property for sale.

Paper suitable for magicians, etc., can be had from T. T. T.

The H. C. Miner Litho. Co. can supply paper of every description.

Military band organs are manufactured by Limonaire Freres.

L. Goldsmith Jr. can furnish good theatrical trunks.

The human arrow novelty can be secured from H. A. Covell.

A new book on card tricks is offered by A. Roterberg.

The Boston Regalia Co. can supply theatrical equipments.

Attractions are wanted for the new Opera House, Martin's Ferry, O.; Opera House, New Britain, Ct.; Opera House, Stoneboro, Pa.; Opera House, Crisfield, Md.; Opera House, Canton, N. Y.; new Opera House, Gosport, Ind.; Opera House, Olney, Ill.; new Trocadero Theatre, Nashville, Tenn.

For Sale: Cars, by Sipe and Blake; canaries, by N. Lazell; typewriter, by G. A. Co.; animals, by C. E. Griffin; dogs, by Meehan; parachute, by C. V. Root; panorama, by C. F. Barkell.

C. W. Park wants an agent.

At Liberty: Klondike, advance agent; A. J. Godderd, property maker and modeler; James H. Kent, agent.

Lee E. King wants 500 plush opera chairs.

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WANTED, A VERSATILE SKETCH TEAM FOR MED. BIZ. Address DR. C. H. DESMOND, Gen'l Del., Des Moines, Ia.

FOR SALE OR RENT, Mechanical Wax Figures, Illusions, Fine Snakes, Marionettes, Paintings, Stuffed Animals; other show stuff; stamp. I buy all kinds of show stuff. J. D. SWEET, Atlantic City, N. J.

WANTED AT ONCE, A GOOD LEADING LADY, to be featured. To such long engagement and sure salary. Address with full particulars. Must join on wire. E. H. WILLARD, Lyceum Theatre Co., Vergennes, Vt., week of Dec. 20; Swanton, Vt., Dec. 27.

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Route as follows: Dec. 20, Olympic Theatre, Providence, R. I.; Dec. 27 and Jan. 3, Caste Theatre, Fall River, Mass.; Jan. 10, Union Square Theatre, N. Y.; Jan. 17, Keith's New Theatre, Boston, Mass.; Feb. 7, Hyde & Behman's Theatre, Brooklyn; Feb. 14, Tony Pastor's Theatre, N. Y.; Feb. 21, Avenue Theatre, Pittsburg; March 1, Pike Opera House, Cincinnati; March 6, Hopkins' Theatre, St. Louis; March 13, Hopkins' Theatre, Chicago; March 20, Alhambra Theatre, Milwaukee; March 28, Olympic Theatre, Chicago; April 4, Chicago Opera House; April 11, Haymarket Theatre, Chicago.

P. S.—We have weeks of Jan. 24 and 31 open. Many thanks to Messrs. Weber & Fields for their offer of the Russell Bros.' Show for the balance of season, which we could not accept on account of above engagements.

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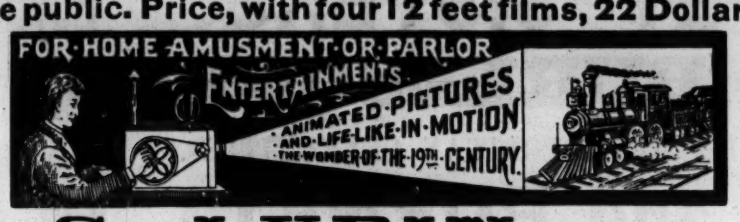

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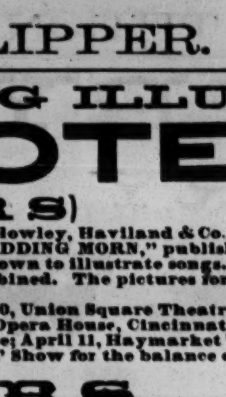

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TRENTON EVENING TIMES, Dec. 2

Of the popular price shows that have visited Trenton this season, the Spooner Company, which is at present filling a week's engagement at Taylor's Opera House, possesses qualities which place it in the foremost rank. It is made up of talented and suitable artists, headed by Misses Edna May and Cecil Spooner, two charming young women, who well deserve the praise they have been given. Then, too, no popular price organization that has ever visited this city, has presented the variety of up to date specialties that the Spooner Company does. These specialties introduced between the acts, make each performance continuous, and add materially to the popularity of the company.

TRENTON TRUE AMERICAN, Nov. 30.

The popularity of the Spooners, Edna and Cecil, and their excellent company, was fully attested by last night's audience at Taylor's Opera House, which packed the auditorium from pit to dome, filled the aisles, and crowded the lobby and foyer. It was a magnificent reception, and the immense throng was treated to an entertainment fully up to their most sanguine expectations. The play, a pastoral comedy, entitled "The Judge's Wife," was most capably presented, the two stars filling the principal parts. Edna May, in the title role, had ample scope in which to illustrate her wonderful emotional powers, while Cecil, as Dolly Dimple, a chic country lassie, charmed her beholders as of yore, and added admirers to her already unlimited following in this city. Between the acts a line of high class specialties was introduced that would do credit to the foremost metropolitan vaudeville theatres. All in all, it was a great performance, and the Spooners will doubtless be greeted by a succession of magnificent audiences during their week's engagement.

THE SCRANTON TRIBUNE, Nov. 26.

Yesterday's attendance at the Academy of Music broke all previous records at that house. In the afternoon 2,754 persons saw the Spooner Company produce "The Galley Slave." The Spooners need no higher endorsement than the financial one given them by the people of this city thus far.

POTTSVILLE JOURNAL, Nov. 22.

The Spooners closed their week's engagement on Saturday evening, with a crowded house. On Saturday afternoon the matinee was the largest in the history of the theatre, there being over 1,600 paid admissions. In fact, the week was a record breaker. Every performance drew a big audience, and standing room was at a premium. No repertoire company ever played to such phenomenal business as did the Spooners, and it is only truth to tell that these big houses were well earned. It is without doubt the finest repertoire company on the road. The dramatic features are not only superior to all others, but the specialties are on an order that would command full houses if produced alone.

THE SCRANTON REPUBLICAN, Nov. 26.

Thanksgiving Day brought enormous crowds to the Spooner entertainments at the Academy of Music. Hundreds were turned away at both performances yesterday, even the standing room being insufficient. It was a great illustration of the remarkable popularity of the Spooners in this city. The matinee attendance smashed all records at the Academy, or in fact of any house in this city. The paid admissions were 2,254 showing how the people must have been packed in when it is remembered that the seating capacity of the house is 1,540. Early in the afternoon all the seats for the night entertainment were sold, and there was another great crush. The Spooner Sisters are versatile and very talented actresses, playing in a single week many roles, and doing good work in each.

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